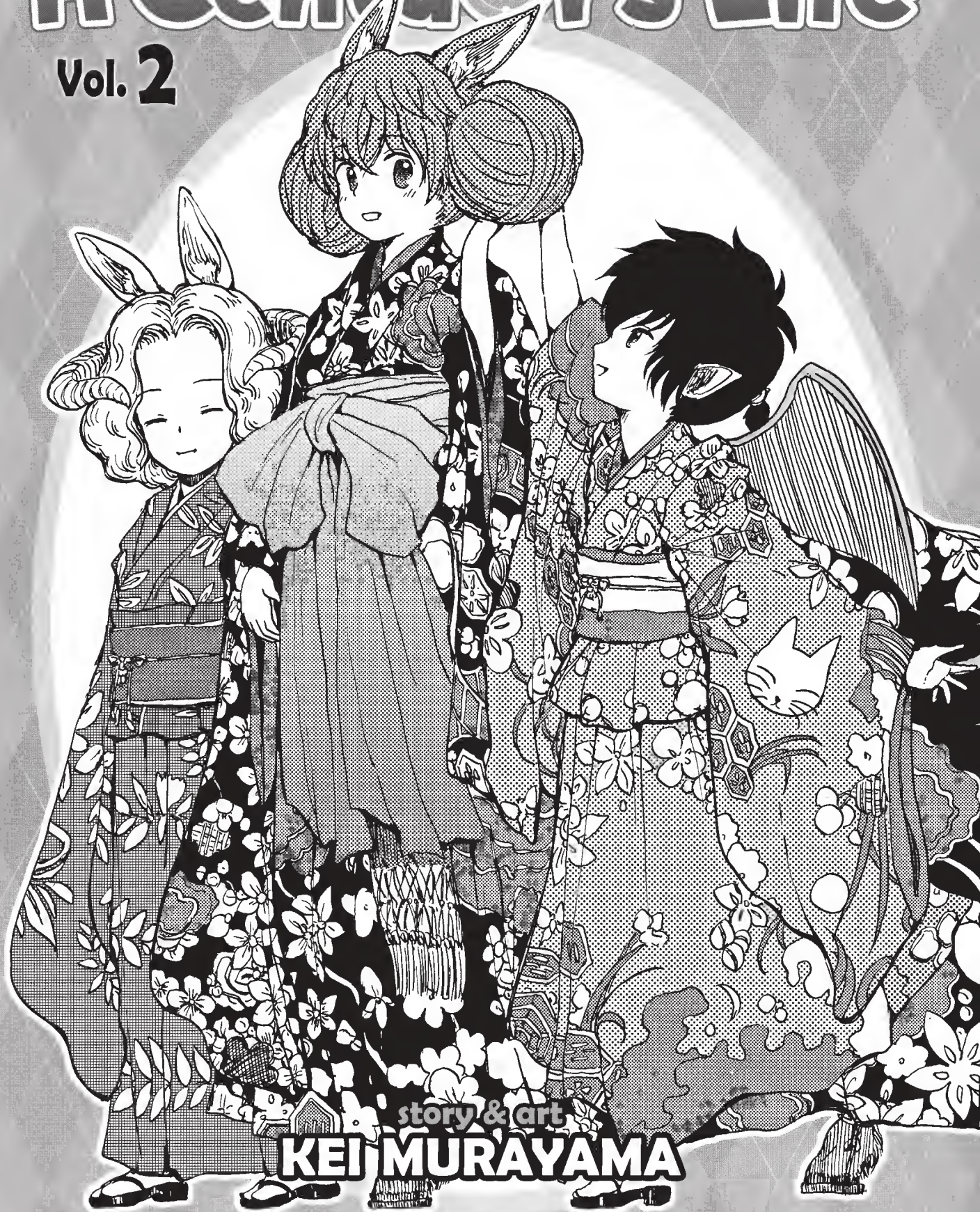
A CentaUr's Life

story & art
KEI MURAYAMA

2

A CentaUr's Life

Vol. 2



story & art

KEI MURAYAMA

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

A Centaur's Life

story and art by KEI MURAYAMA

VOLUME 2

TRANSLATION
Angela Liu

ADAPTATION
Holly Kolodziejczak

LETTERING AND LAYOUT
Jennifer Skarupa

LOGO DESIGN
Courtney Williams

COVER DESIGN
Nicky Lim

PROOFREADER
Patrick King

MANAGING EDITOR
Adam Arnold

PUBLISHER
Jason DeAngelis

CENTAUR NO NAYAMI VOLUME 2
© KEI MURAYAMA 2012
Originally published in Japan in 2012 by TOKUMA SHOTEN PUBLISHING CO., LTD., Tokyo. English translation rights arranged with TOKUMA SHOTEN PUBLISHING CO., LTD., Tokyo, through TOHAN CORPORATION, Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without written permission from the copyright holders. This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locals, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

Seven Seas books may be purchased in bulk for educational, business, or promotional use. For information on bulk purchases, please contact Macmillan Corporate & Premium Sales Department at 1-800-221-7945 (ext 5442) or write specialmarkets@macmillan.com.

Seven Seas and the Seven Seas logo are trademarks of Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC. All rights reserved.

ISBN: 978-1-626920-00-2

Printed in Canada

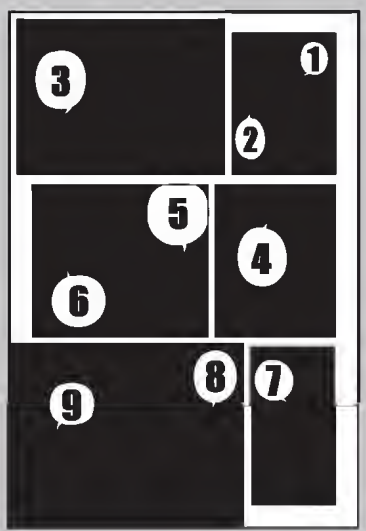
First Printing: February 2014

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

FOLLOW US ONLINE: ***www.gomanga.com***

READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you□ll get the hang of it! Have fun!!

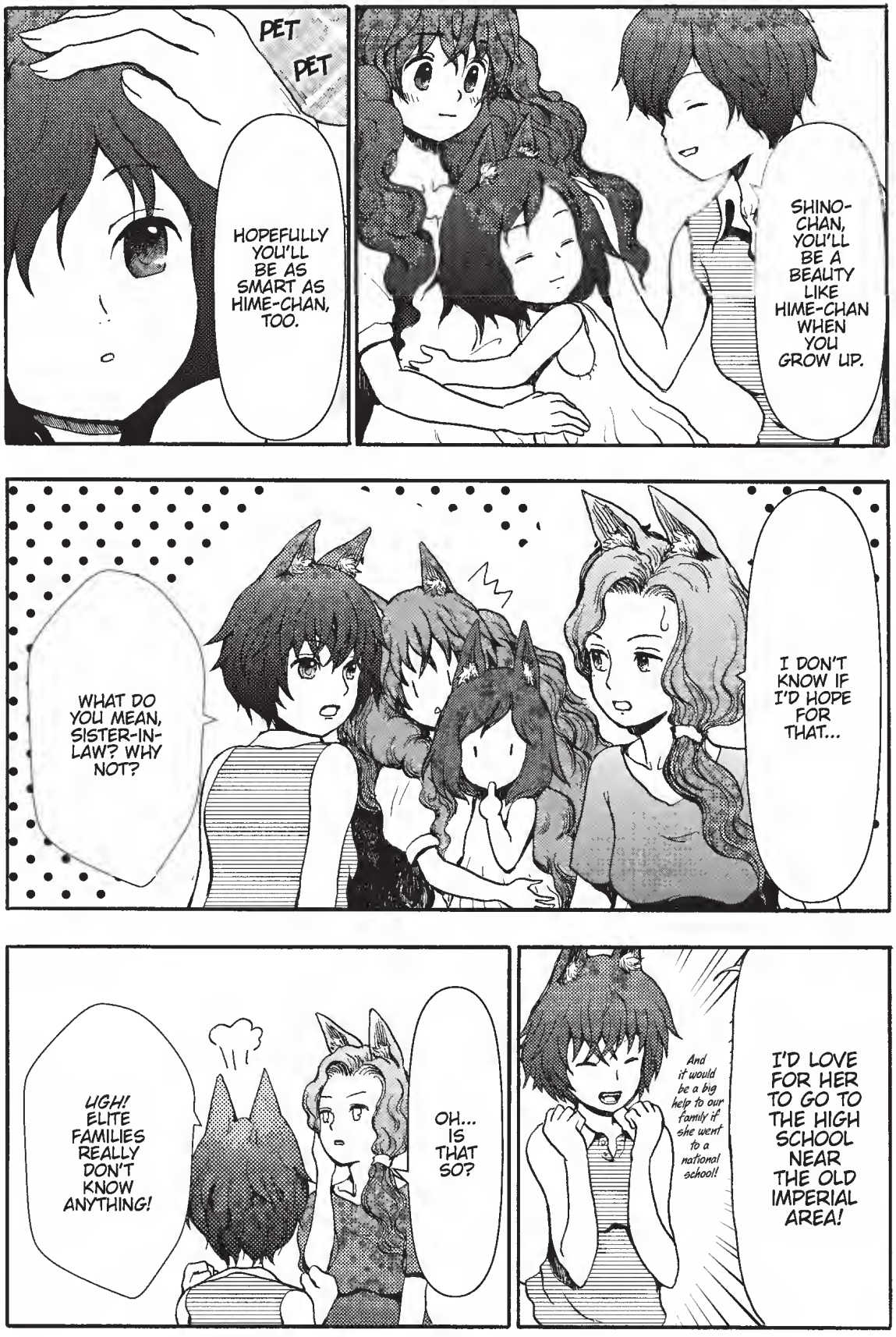


I LOVE-LOVE YOU, BIG SISTER HIME-CHAN!
MMWAH!
CHU!

CHAPTER 5

NUZZLE NUZZLE
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS.
WELL, HIME-CHAN IS QUITE LOVELY, SO...
SHE'LL DEFINITELY BE POPULAR WITH BOYS, TOO.
WH-WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!
AT LEAST SHE WON'T HAVE TROUBLE GETTING A DATE.
THAT'S TRUE.
Popular?
Ehe-he...
DON'T YOU AGREE, SISTER-IN-LAW?

I'M CONSTANTLY NAGGING SHINO-CHAN AT HOME.
Clean this up right now!
I'M SURE SHE LOVES BEING SPOILED BY HER COUSIN HIME-CHAN.
POMFF
POMFF
SHINO-CHAN LOOKS JUST LIKE HIMENO DID AT THAT AGE.
COME TO THINK OF IT...
She says you look like me.
WOW, REALLY?
HOW LUCKY!

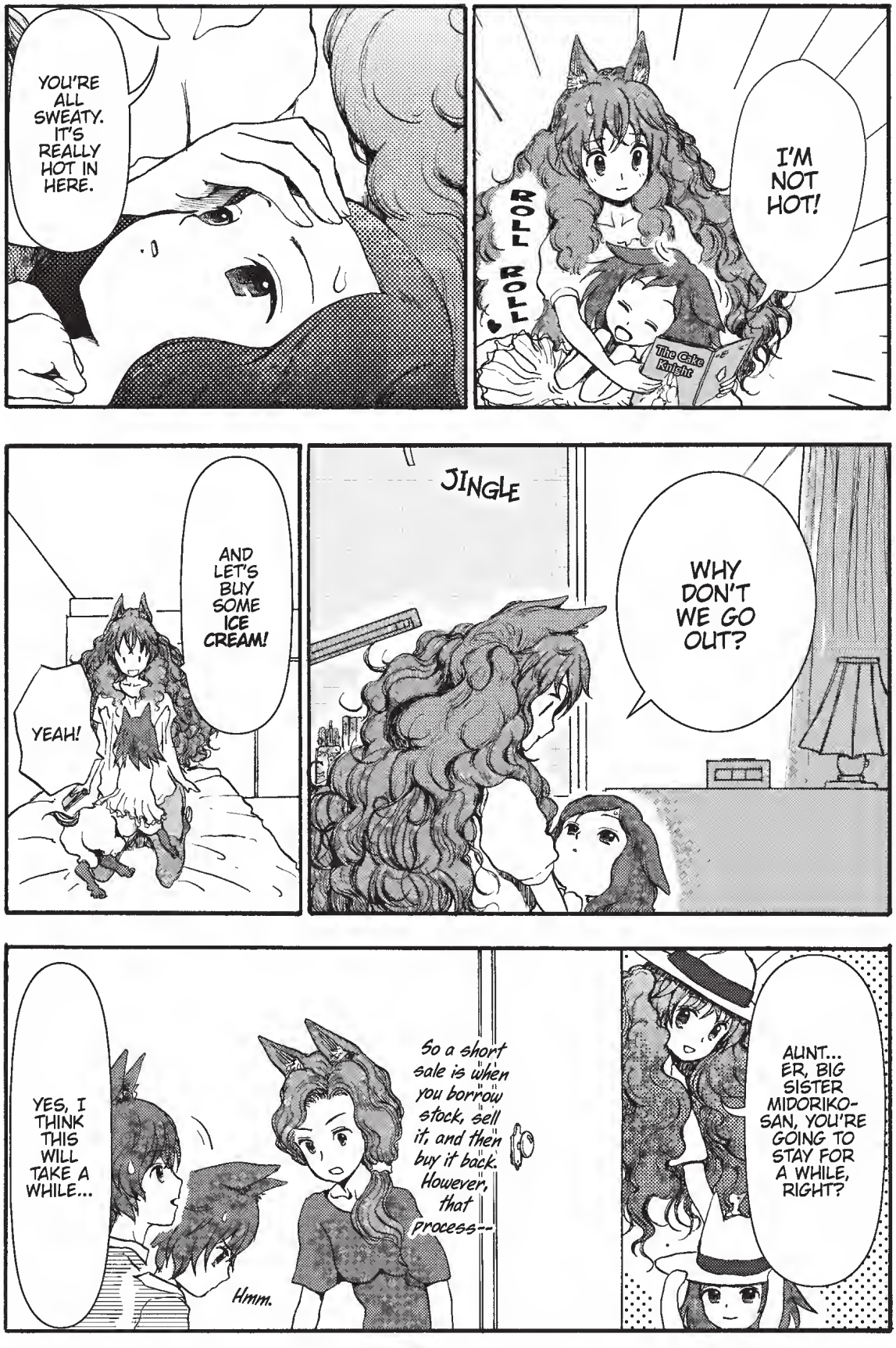

PET
PET
HOPEFULLY YOU'LL BE AS SMART AS HIME-CHAN, TOO.
SHINO-CHAN, YOU'LL BE A BEAUTY LIKE HIME-CHAN WHEN YOU GROW UP.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SISTER-IN-LAW? WHY NOT?
I DON'T KNOW IF I'D HOPE FOR THAT...
UGH! ELITE FAMILIES REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
OH... IS THAT SO?
And it would be a big help to our family if she went to a national school!
I'D LOVE FOR HER TO GO TO THE HIGH SCHOOL NEAR THE OLD IMPERIAL AREA!

Why don't we go to big sister Hime's room?
Yaaay!
MAYBE IT'S BEST TO RAISE CHILDREN WITHOUT STRESSING OUT TOO MUCH.
THAT MIGHT BE EASIER SAID THAN DONE.
You're buying more things? We still have loans to pay!
EVEN IF SHE GRADUATES FROM A GOOD SCHOOL...
The Cake Knight
Okay, okay.
MAMA-SAN, BOOK!
Umph. Umph.
OKAY, THEN! LET'S GO UPSTAIRS.

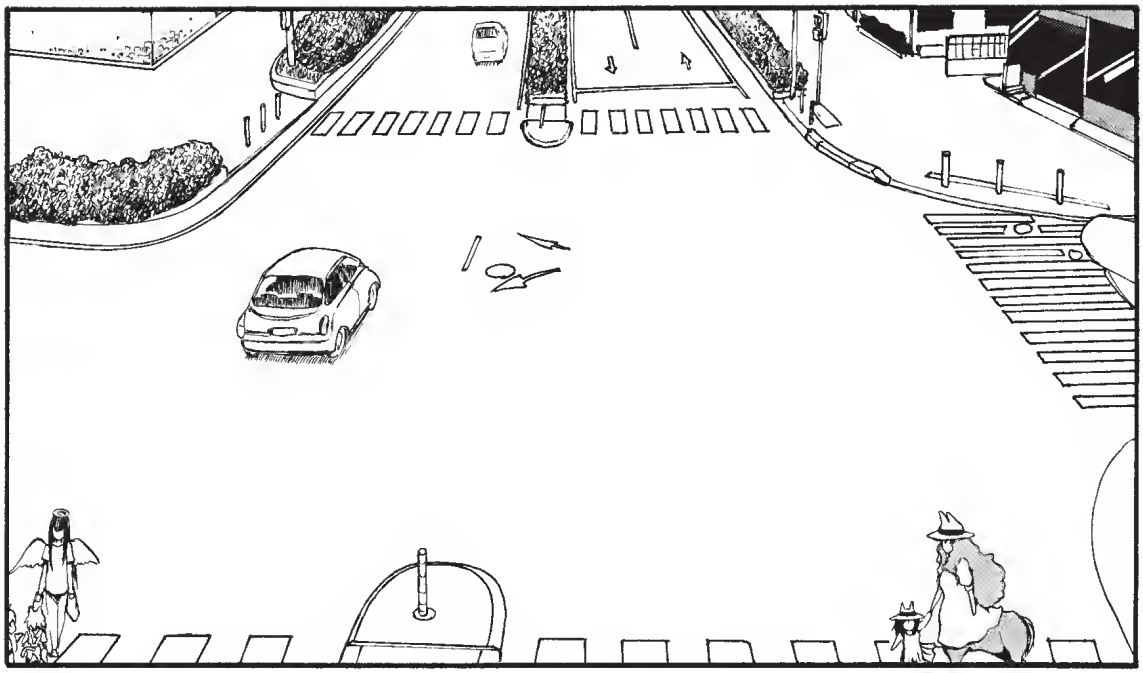
This way!
Very good!
CUDDLE
The Cake Knight
A LONG, LONG TIME AGO, THERE WAS A SMALL KINGDOM OF ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE, MOSTLY FARMERS AND HERDERS.
THE PEOPLE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH POWER, BUT IT WAS A PEACEFUL COUNTRY.

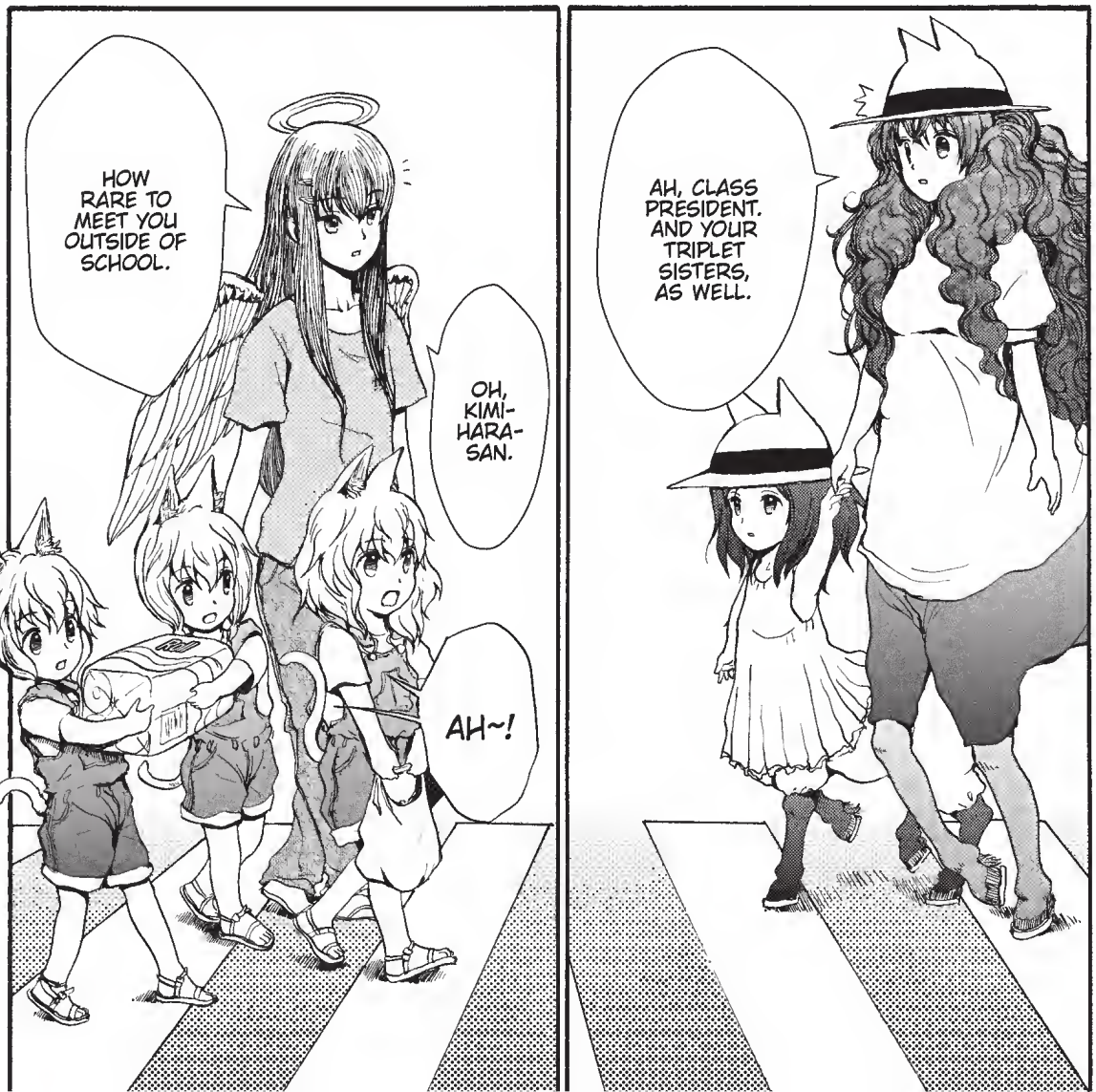
Tax Hike
UNTIL ONE DAY, THE KING WAS BEATEN BY A TERRIBLE MAGICIAN WHO TOOK OVER THE KINGDOM.
HE KIDNAPPED THE PRINCESS AND USED HIS CRUEL MAGIC TO DO AWFUL DEEDS AND STAY IN POWER.
THE PEOPLE ROSE TOGETHER AND ELECTED A HERO TO GO AGAINST THE EVIL MAGICIAN.
THE NEW HERO WAS A CAKE MAKER, SO HE USED SWEET AROMAS TO BEFRIEND A LION, A GOAT, AND AN OWL.

AND ONCE HE REACHED THE PRINCESS, WHO HAD FALLEN INTO AN ENCHANTED SLEEP...
THE HERO DEFEATED THE EVIL MAGICIAN WITH BRAVERY, KNOWLEDGE, AND LOUD BATTLE CRIES.
WHEN THE HERO RETURNED, HE RESTORED ORDER TO THE KINGDOM. WITH THE HELP OF THE PRINCESS AND HIS BEASTS, HE RULED DEMOCRATICALLY WITH THE BELIEFS OF FREEDOM, EQUALITY, AND BENEVOLENCE.
Hip- Hip- Hooray!
THE END.
The Cake Knight
SHINO-CHAN, AREN'T YOU HOT?
CLAP
CLAP
The Cake Knight

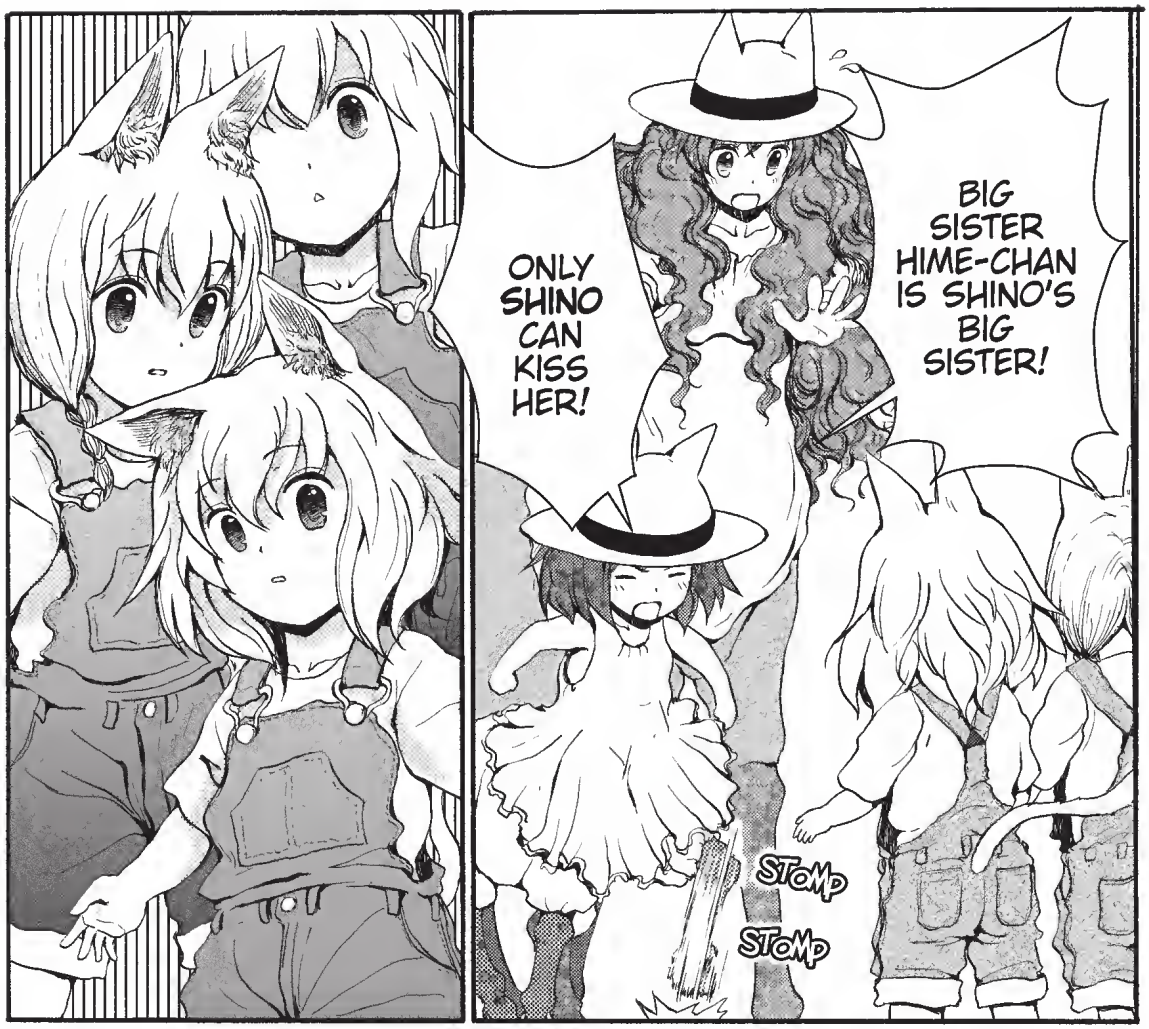

YOU'RE ALL SWEATY. IT'S REALLY HOT IN HERE.
I'M NOT HOT!
ROLL ROLL
The Cake Knight
AND LET'S BUY SOME ICE CREAM!
YEAH!
JINGLE
WHY DON'T WE GO OUT?
AUNT... ER, BIG SISTER MIDORIKO-SAN, YOU'RE GOING TO STAY FOR A WHILE, RIGHT?
So a short sale is when you borrow stock, sell it, and then buy it back. However, that process--
Hmm.
YES, I THINK THIS WILL TAKE A WHILE...

Let's eat ice cream at the park.
There's a fountain there, too.
Zi Zi Zi Zi Zi



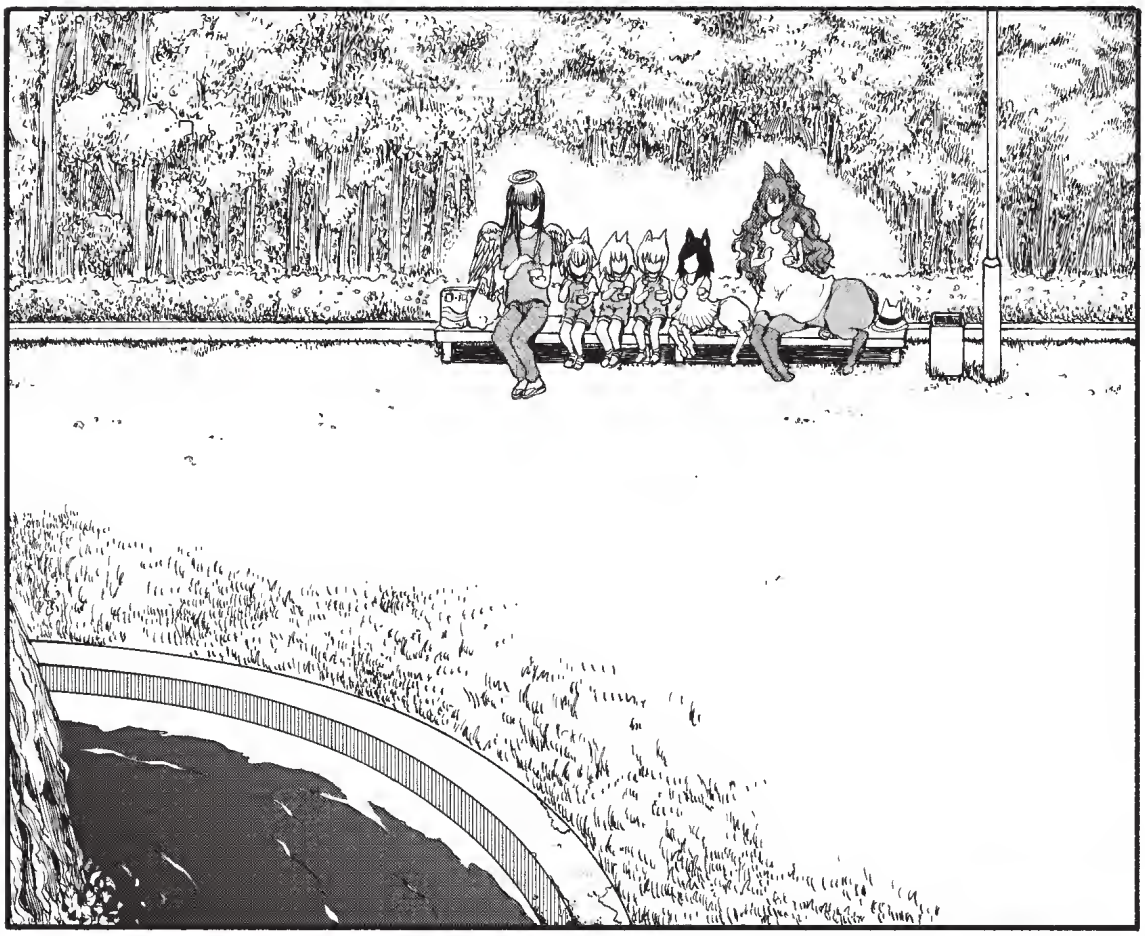

AH, CLASS PRESIDENT. AND YOUR TRIPLET SISTERS, AS WELL.
HOW RARE TO MEET YOU OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL.
OH, KIMI-HARA-SAN.
AH~!

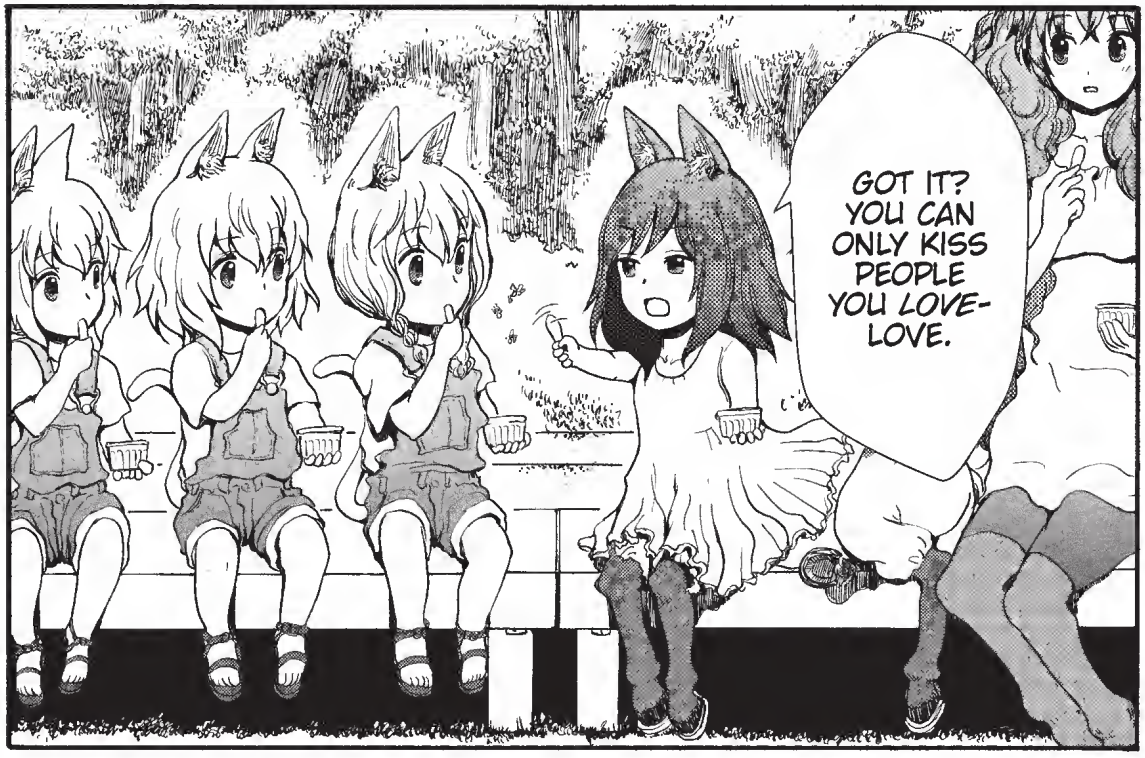
HUG HUG
Hey, me too!
Don't talk about... I have a name!
IT'S THE BIG SISTER WITH BIG BOOBIES!
Hey, stop!
TOSS
CHU!
A HELLO KISS~!
CHIHO-CHAN.
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE!
CHI-GUSA-CHAN.
CHI-NAMI-CHAN.
NO --!
SHOVE
chu!
CHU!


BIG SISTER HIME-CHAN IS SHINO'S BIG SISTER!
ONLY SHINO CAN KISS HER!
STOMP
STOMP

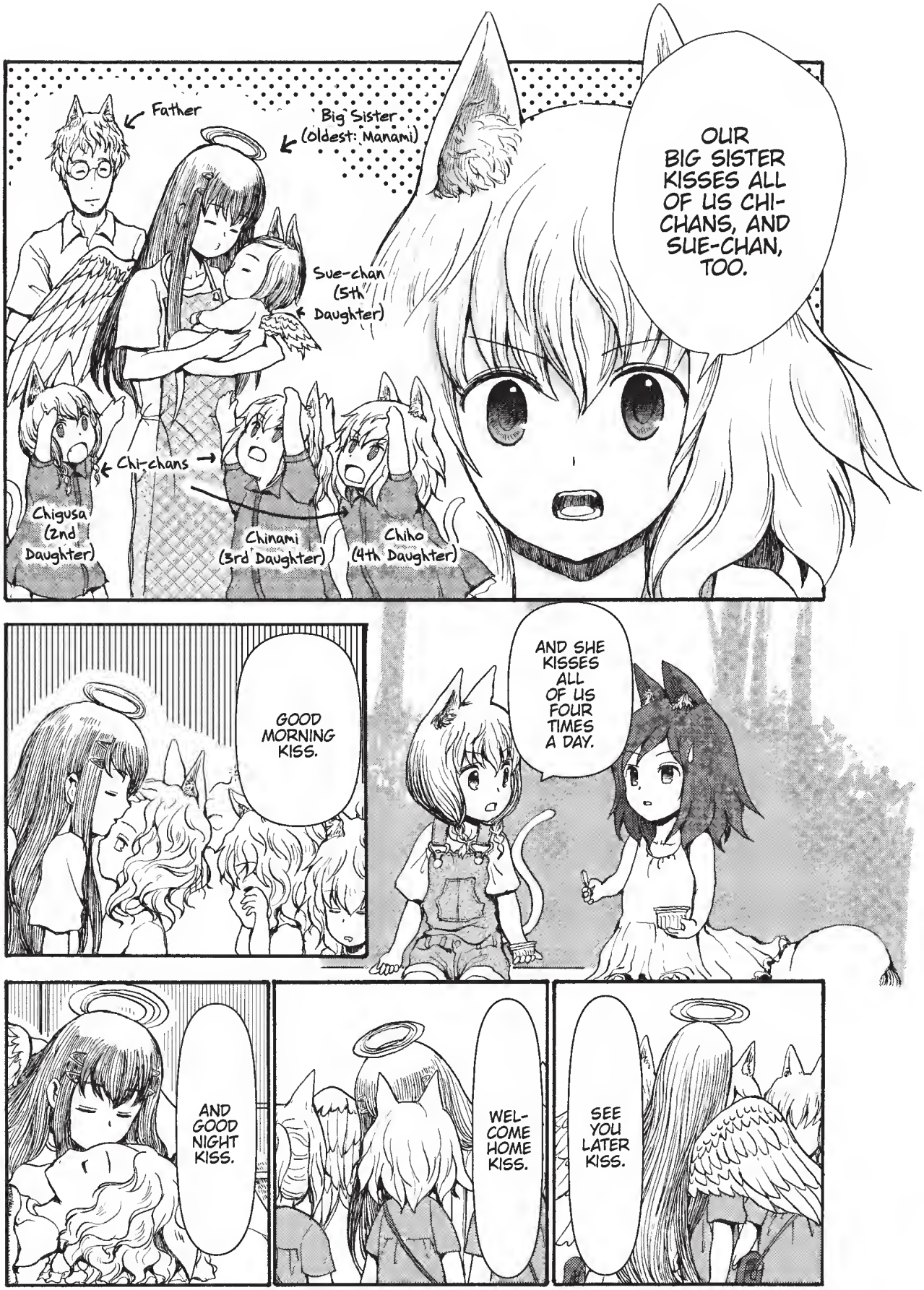
WHAT A COINCIDENCE. YOUR LITTLE SISTER?
SHE'S ACTUALLY MY LITTLE COUSIN.

WANT TO KISS OUR BIG SISTER, TOO?
NO, I DON'T.




GOT IT? YOU CAN ONLY KISS PEOPLE YOU LOVE-LOVE.

NO, NO, NO!
STOMP STOMP
BUT... WE CHI-CHANS ALL LOVE-LOVE THE BIG-BIG SISTER, TOO!
YOU SURE ARE LOVED, KIMI-HARA-SAN.
KEEPING HER ALL TO YOUR-SELF?
SHINO LOVES BIG SISTER HIME-CHAN THE MOST!
RIGHT!
BUT BEING SELFISH IS BAD, RIGHT?


Father
Big Sister (Oldest: Manami)
Sue-chan (5th Daughter)
Chi-chans
Chigusa (2nd Daughter)
Chinami (3rd Daughter)
Chiho (4th Daughter)
OUR BIG SISTER KISSES ALL OF US CHI-CHANS, AND SUE-CHAN, TOO.
GOOD MORNING KISS.
AND SHE KISSES ALL OF US FOUR TIMES A DAY.
AND GOOD NIGHT KISS.
WEL-COME HOME KISS.
SEE YOU LATER KISS.

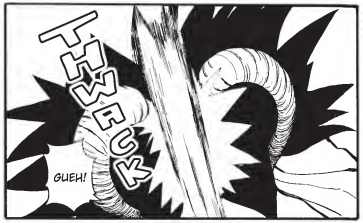
TH-THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT.
BIG SISTER, ARE YOU FRIENDS WITH THE BIG-BIG SISTER?
HM?
IN A WAY.
IF YOU'RE FRIENDS, THAT MEANS YOU BOTH LOVE-LOVE EACH OTHER?
WELL, I DON'T DISLIKE HER...
SO THEN, DO YOU KISS THE BIG-BIG SISTER?

I DO NOT.
AW, WHYYY?
JUST BE-CAUSE.
IT'S TRUE.
REALLY?
ONCE YOU GROW UP, GIRLS DON'T KISS EACH OTHER.
OH.

WHAT A RARE COMBI-NATION.
HEY!
IS THAT THE PRINCESS' LITTLE SISTER?
THIS IS MY LITTLE COUSIN SHINO-CHAN.
AND THE TRIPLETS THERE?
THEY'RE MY LITTLE SISTERS.
HELLO!

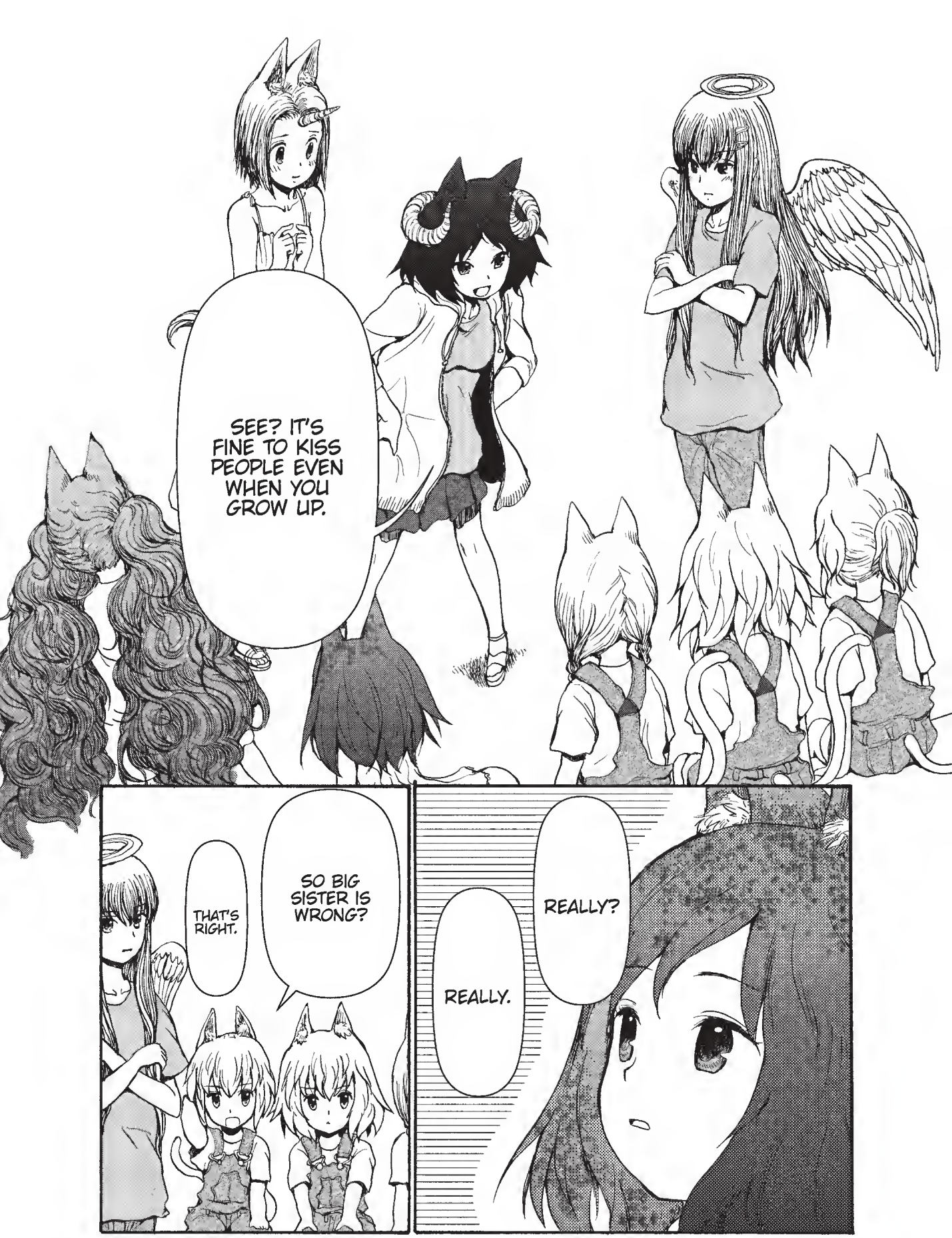
OUR PARENTS WERE A MIXED-RACE COUPLE.
QUITE PHYSI-CALLY DIFFERENT SIBLINGS.
MRR?
I SEE~!
SINCE YOU'RE GROWN UP, YOU CAN'T KISS EVEN IF YOU LOVE-LOVE HER?
ARE YOU TWO BIG SISTERS FRIENDS WITH OUR BIG SISTER?
THAT'S RIGHT.
THAT'S NOT ALWAYS TRUE. SEE...
YEAH. BIG SISTER SAYS ONCE YOU GROW UP, GIRLS DON'T KISS EACH OTHER.
KISS?

SEE?
GAH!
Wow! That's like on TV!


THWACK
GUEH!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN FRONT OF CHILDREN?! AND YOU MADE ME BREAK MY LEEK!

Those big sisters were kissing!
Let's go this way instead, sweetie...
NOW EVERY-ONE IS STARING.
WHO ARE YOU CALLING AN OLD LADY?!
HOW STRICT. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE AN OLD PTA LADY FROM A BYGONE ERA.
THIS ISN'T RUSSIA!
IT'S A NORMAL GREETING IN RUSSIA.
THERE'S NOTHING EMBAR-RASSING ABOUT A KISS.
HOW DO I EX-PLAIN THIS ...?
HMM ...
SHE KISSED ...!
FOR-GET WHAT YOU SAW.

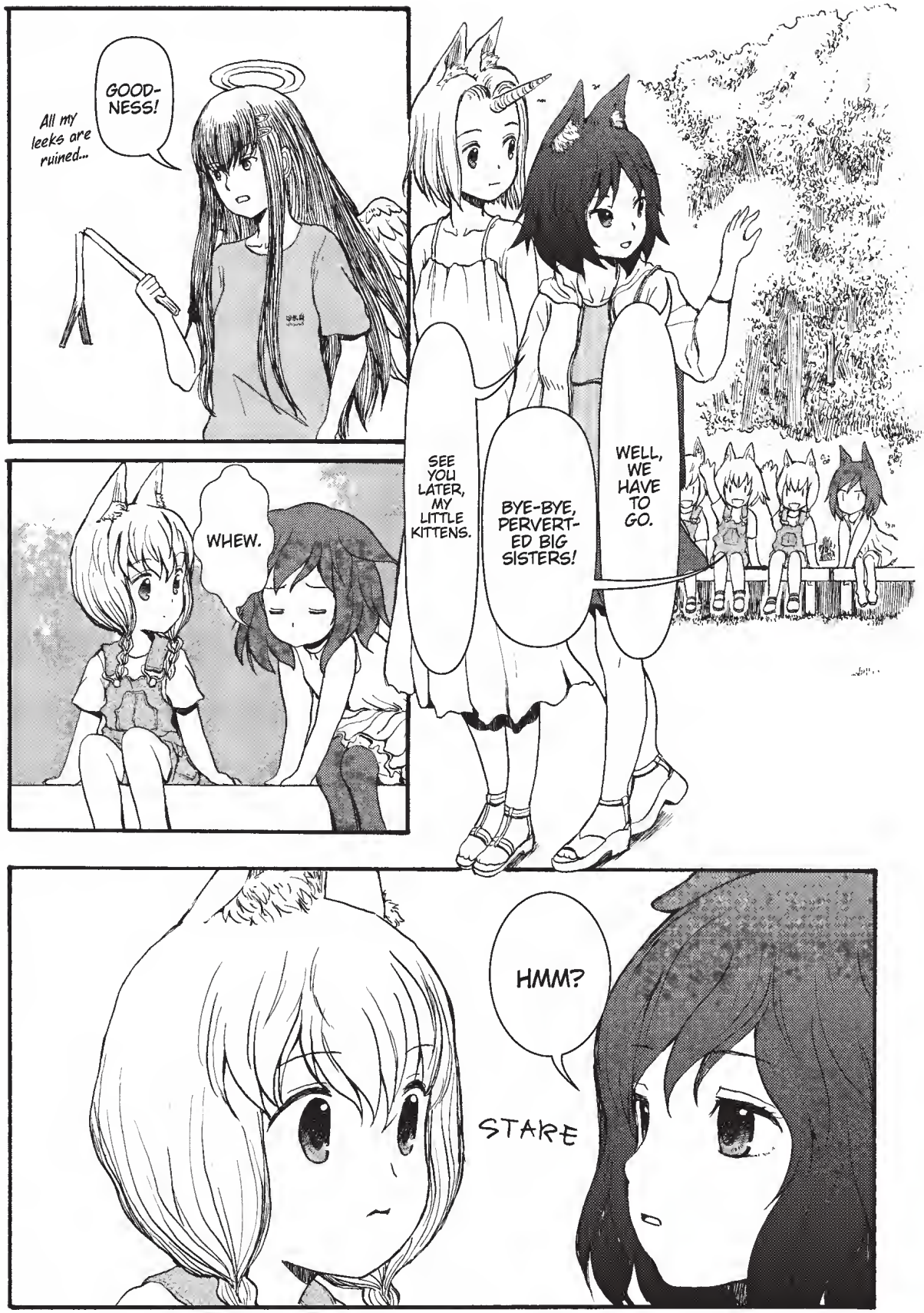

SEE? IT'S FINE TO KISS PEOPLE EVEN WHEN YOU GROW UP.
SO BIG SISTER IS WRONG?
THAT'S RIGHT.
REALLY?
REALLY.

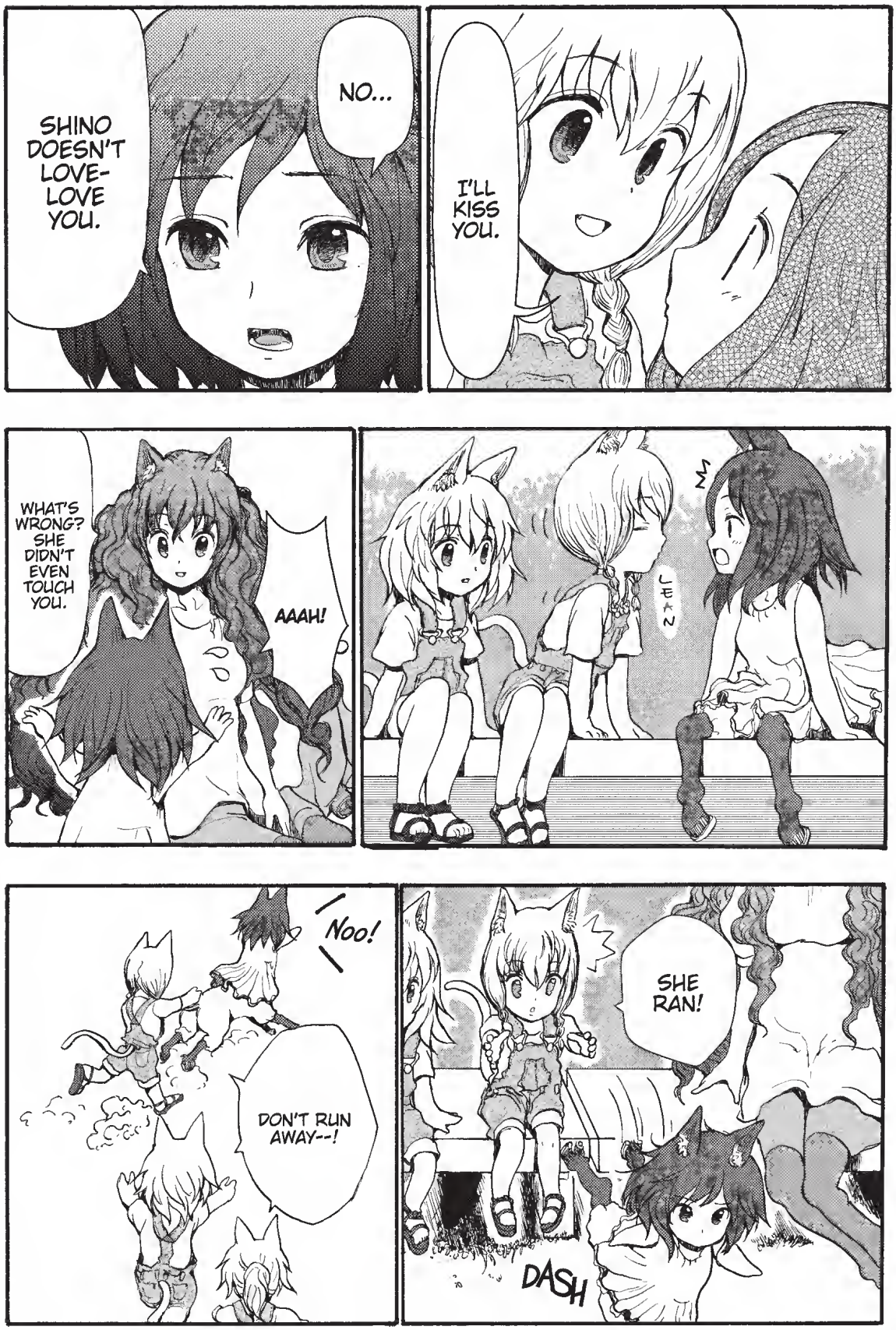
YOU ALL KISS YOUR MOM AND DAD TOO, RIGHT?
OH... RIGHT. SORRY.
WATCH IT.
AHEM
BUT, LOVE-LOVE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR A MOUTH TO MOUTH KISS.
YOU CAN ONLY DO THAT TO ONE SPECIAL PERSON.

WILL WE UNDERSTAND WHEN WE ARE ADULTS?
WELL, YES.
Question!
IS IT SOMETHING PERVERTED?!
AH... I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT.
STILL, YOU CAN GIVE A KISS ON THE CHEEK TO ANYONE YOU LIKE.
WHAT? I EXPLAINED IT TO THEM.

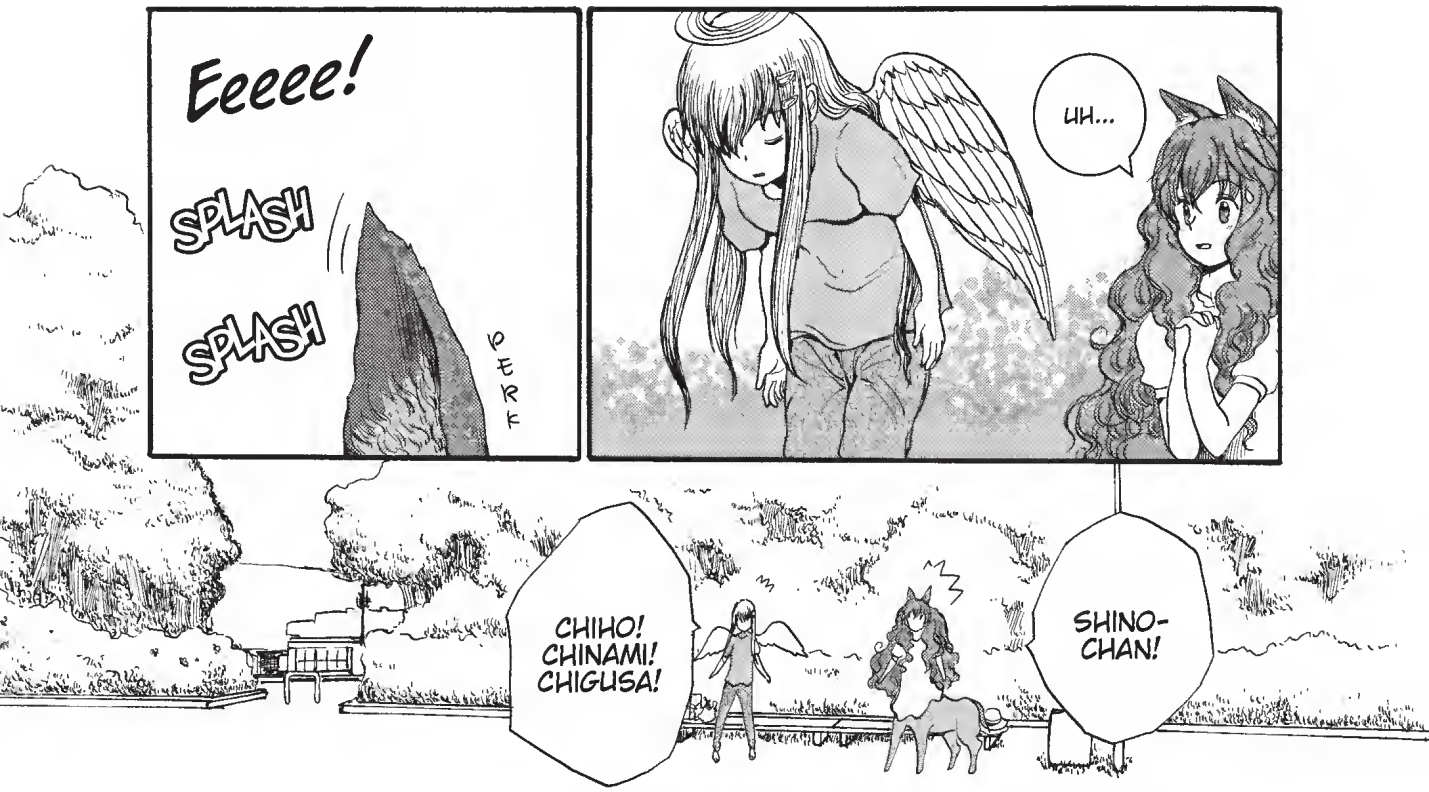
GAH! GET AWAY!
SEE? LIKE THIS.
HUGH
WIPE
UM, ARE YOU SURE WE'RE FRIENDS?
OF COURSE! WE'RE THE BEST OF FRIENDS.

NO! ONLY SHINO LOVE-LOVES BIG SISTER HIME-CHAN!
THEN I'LL KISS SHINO-CHAN INSTEAD.
QUIT IT ALREADY!
COME ON, TIME TO GO.
THWACK


GOOD-NESS!
All my leeks are ruined...
WELL, WE HAVE TO GO.
BYE-BYE, PERVERT-ED BIG SISTERS!
SEE YOU LATER, MY LITTLE KITTENS.
WHEW.
HMM?
STARE


SHINO DOESN'T LOVE-LOVE YOU.
NO...
I'LL KISS YOU.
WHAT'S WRONG? SHE DIDN'T EVEN TOUCH YOU.
AAAH!
JE★N
Noo!
DON'T RUN AWAY--!
SHE RAN!
DASH

Wait for us!!
No!
THEY'LL BECOME FRIENDS AFTER PLAYING AROUND LIKE THAT FOR A WHILE.
DON'T WOR-RY.
U-UM...!
IT'S LIKE YOU'RE ALREADY A MOTHER, MITAMA-SAN.
WELL, I AGREE WITH THAT.
WHAT?
.....
BEING CLASS PRESIDENT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE A MOTHER SOMETIMES.

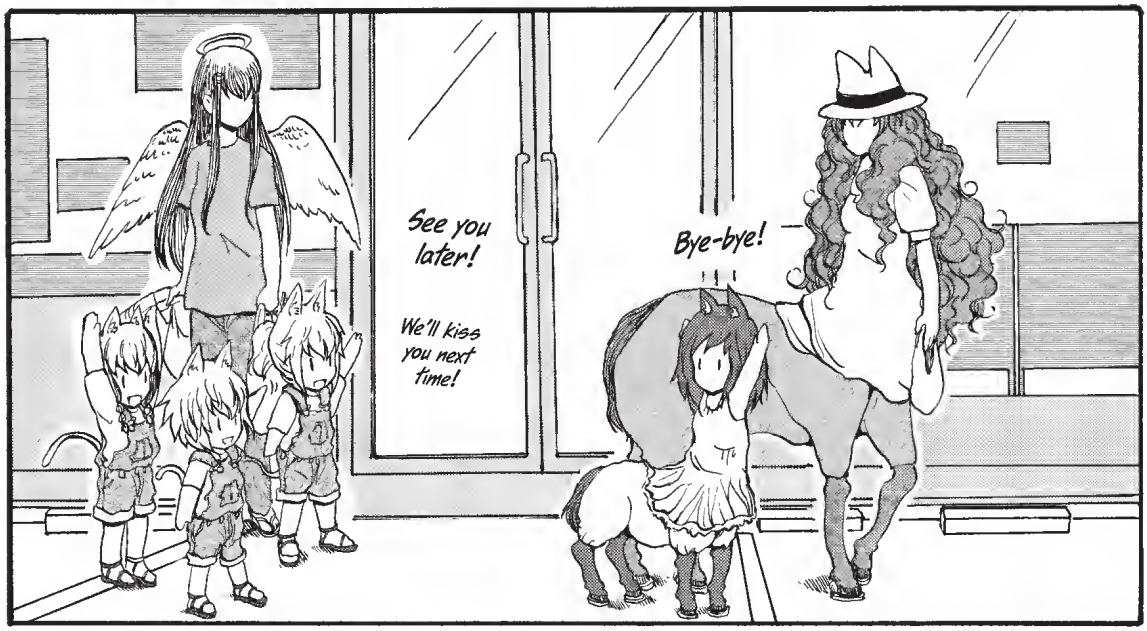

Eeeee!
SPLASH
SPLASH
PERK
UH...
CHIHO! CHINAMI! CHIGUSA!
SHINO-CHAN!

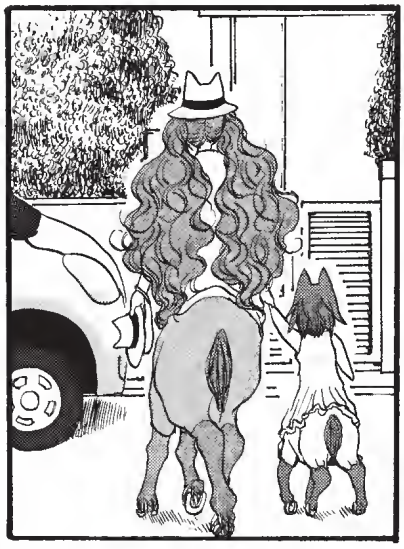
Giggle
Giggle
SOAKED

DRIP
DRIP
These are your nice outing clothes...
OH NO...
SHINO-CHAN!
YOU GUYS, TOO!
Run for it!

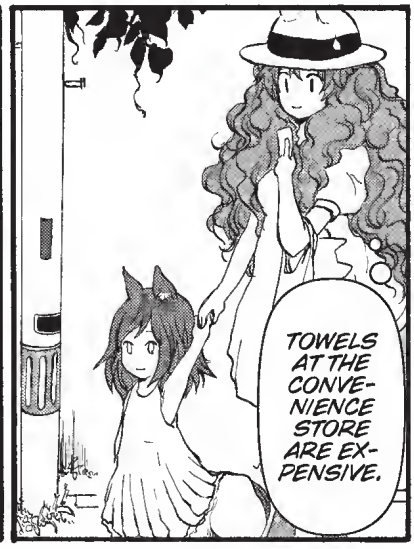
No--!
SNATCH

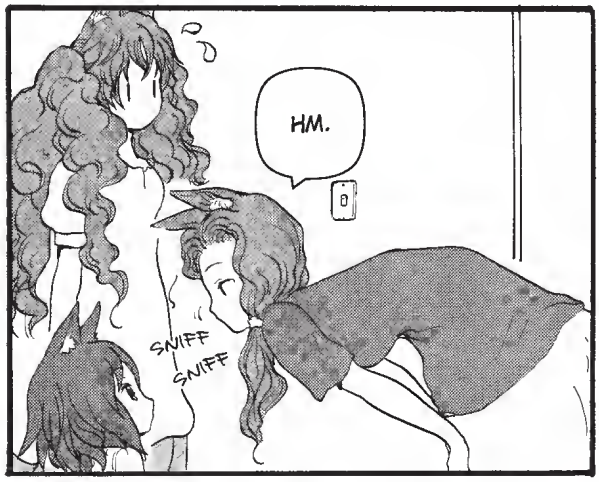
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?!
BECAUSE YOU WERE GONNA GET ANGRY, BIG SISTER.
Ack--!
BIG SISTER, THAT'S IMPROP-ER!
QUIET, YOU!
WHEN YOU DEAL WITH LITTLE CHILDREN YOU COME TO UNDER-STAND THE TRIBU-LATIONS OF ALL THE MOTHERS IN THE WORLD.
I... I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.
ARE YOU MAD?
NO, I'M NOT MAD.


See you later!
We'll kiss you next time!
Bye-bye!



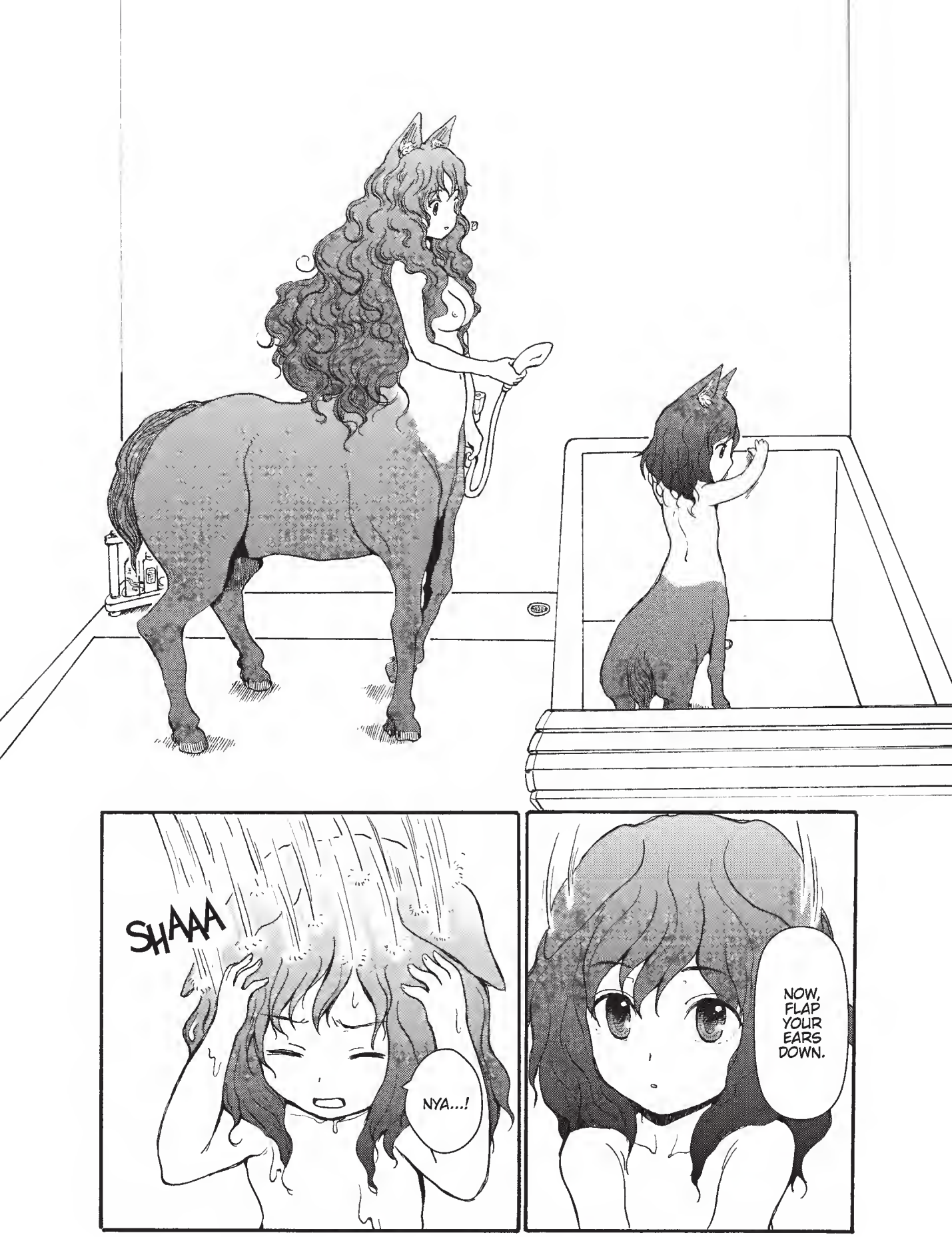
I THINK SHE'LL DRY JUST FINE SINCE IT'S SUNNY OUT-SIDE.


TOWELS AT THE CONVE-NIENCE STORE ARE EX-PENSIVE.


HM.
SNIFF SNIFF

WELCOME HOME-- HEY.

DID SHE FALL INTO SOME MUD?
UM... THE FOUNTAIN AT THE PARK.
OH, YOU TWO ARE HOME.
DID YOU DO SOMETHING NAUGHTY AGAIN?
UM, I'M SORRY.
IT'S FINE. EVEN THOUGH MY LITTLE GIRL IS SHY, SHE STILL DOES SOME VERY MISCHIEVOUS THINGS.
THE BATH ISN'T READY, BUT...
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A SHOWER?
SHINO WANTS TO TAKE A BATH WITH BIG SISTER HIME-CHAN!


SHAAA
NYA...!
NOW, FLAP YOUR EARS DOWN.

OKAY, TIME TO RINSE!
UNYAA~!
NOPE! YOU SMELL GOOD.
SHTINKY?
SNIFF SNIFF
Let me put my hair up.
SHINO WILL WASH BIG SISTER HIME-CHAN.

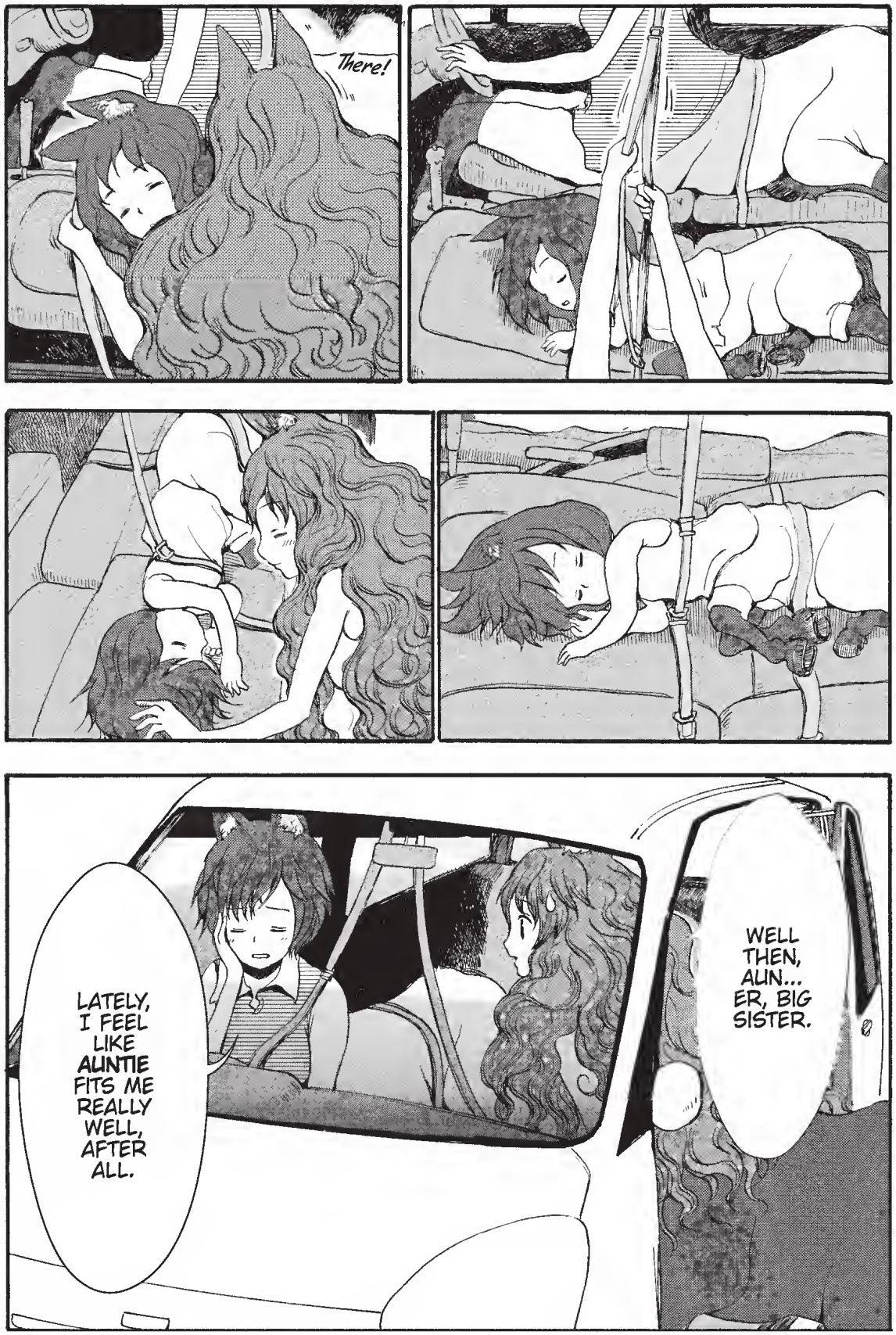
FLORA

ALL CLEAN!
AM I CLEAN?
GONNA RINSE YOU NOW!
UH... N-NO, ONLY MOMMIES CAN DO THAT.
CAN YOU MAKE MILK?
?
BIG SISTER HIME-CHAN?

HEY, BIG SISTER.
SHINO DIDN'T REALLY UNDER-STAND.
WHAT THE KISSING BIG SISTER SAID...
EHE ...
ONCE I GET BIG BOOBIES LIKE BIG SISTER HIME-CHAN?
WELL...
YOU'LL COME TO UNDERSTAND WHEN YOU GET A LITTLE BIGGER.

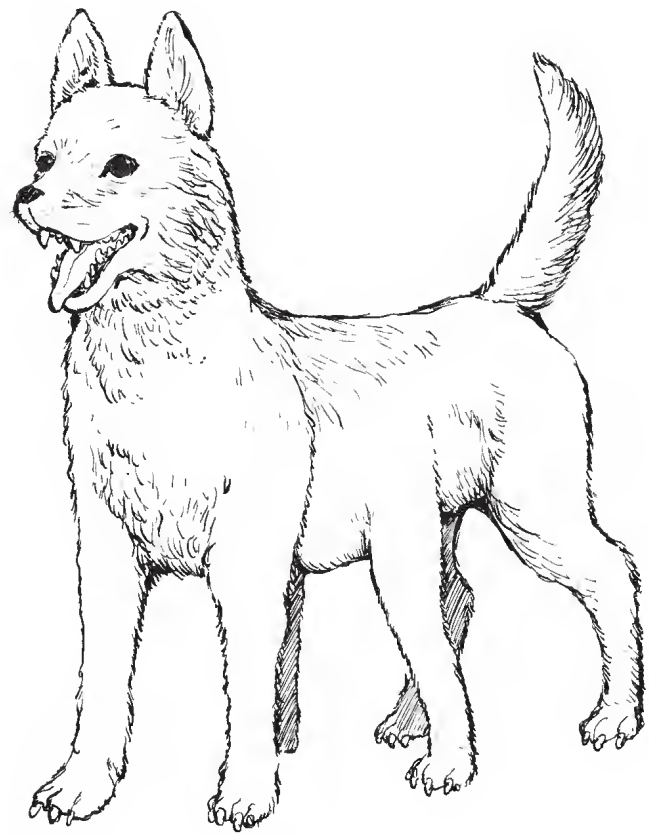
VRRRR...
CLICK
Zzzzz

SORRY ABOUT THIS.
IT'S NO BIG DEAL.


There!
WELL THEN, AUN... ER, BIG SISTER.
LATELY, I FEEL LIKE AUNTIE FITS ME REALLY WELL, AFTER ALL.

SEE YOU LATER, SHINO-CHAN.
IF ONLY YOU WERE A BOY, HIME-CHAN.
BUT I DON'T THINK I CAN GIVE MY SHINO TO A LESBIAN WITH A LOLITA FETISH.
ER... WHAT?

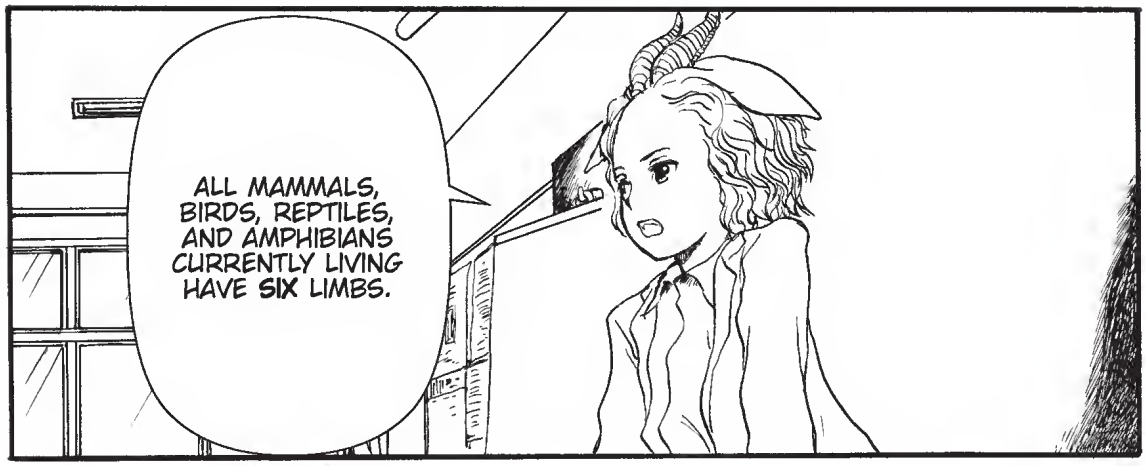
A CentaUr's Life



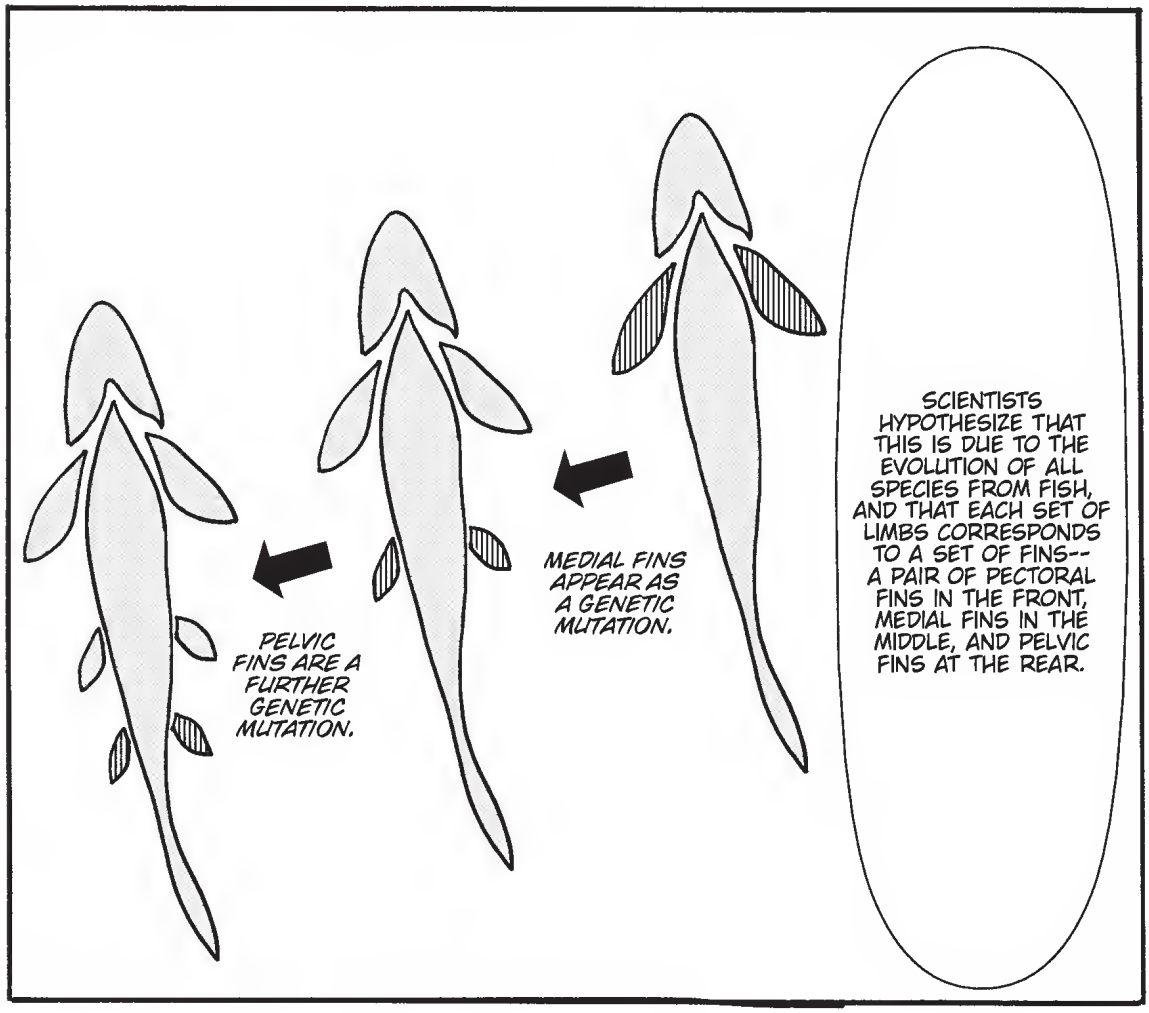
CANINES

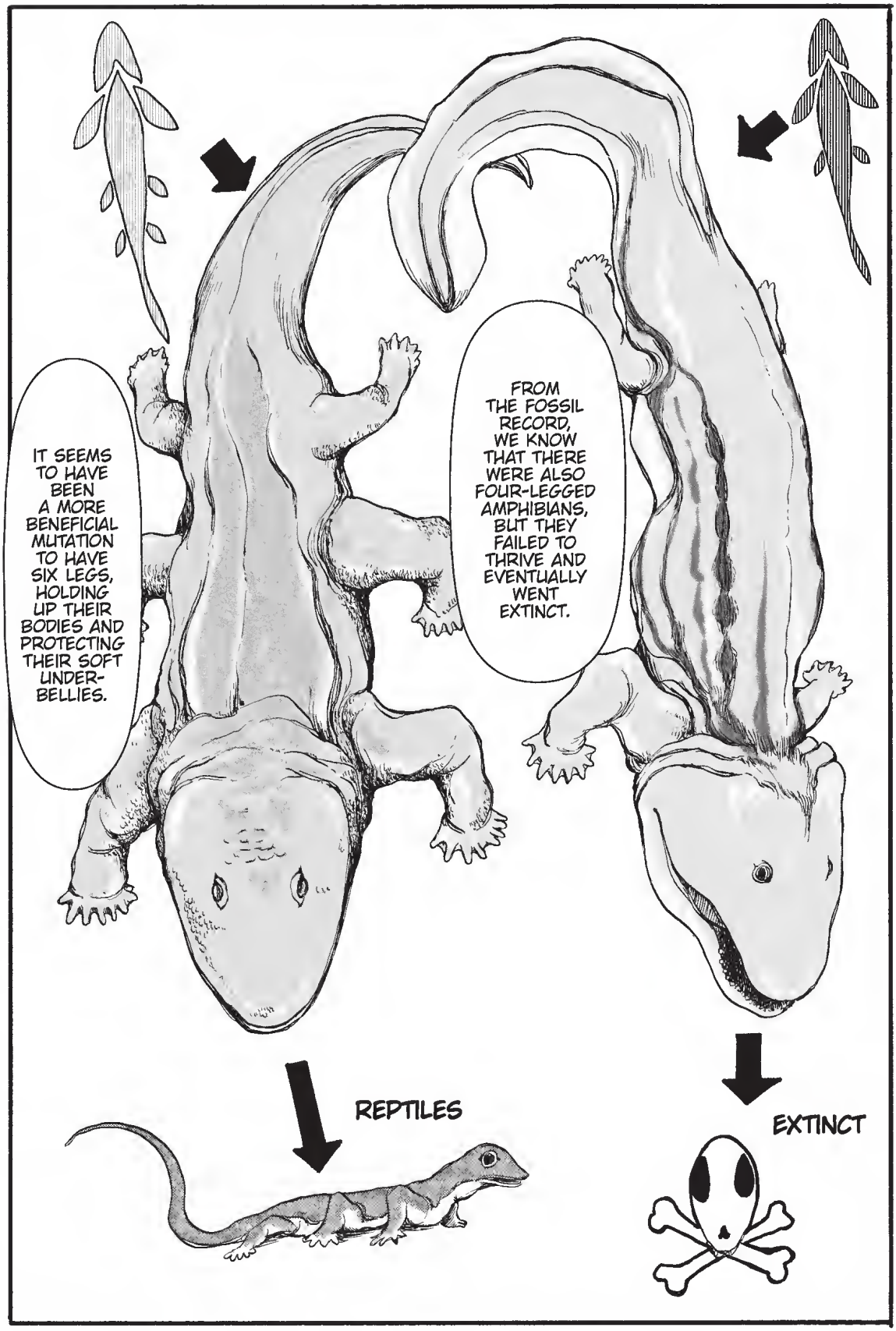
ORDER *CARNIVORA*, FAMILY *CANIDAE*. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE GRAY WOLVES OF TRIBE *CANINI* ("TRUE DOGS") WERE THE ANCESTORS OF MODERN DOMESTIC DOGS (*CANIS LUPUS FAMILIARIS*). ALTHOUGH THERE ARE MANY BREEDS OF MODERN DOGS (SUCH AS SHIBA INU, POMERANIAN, ST. BERNARD, ETC), THEY ALL BELONG TO THE SAME SUBSPECIES AND CAN BE INTERBRED. THEY CAN ALSO PROCREATE WITH FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE GENUS *CANIS* IN TRIBE *CANINI*. FAMILY *CANIDAE* ALSO INCLUDES TRIBE *VULPINI*, OR "TRUE FOXES."

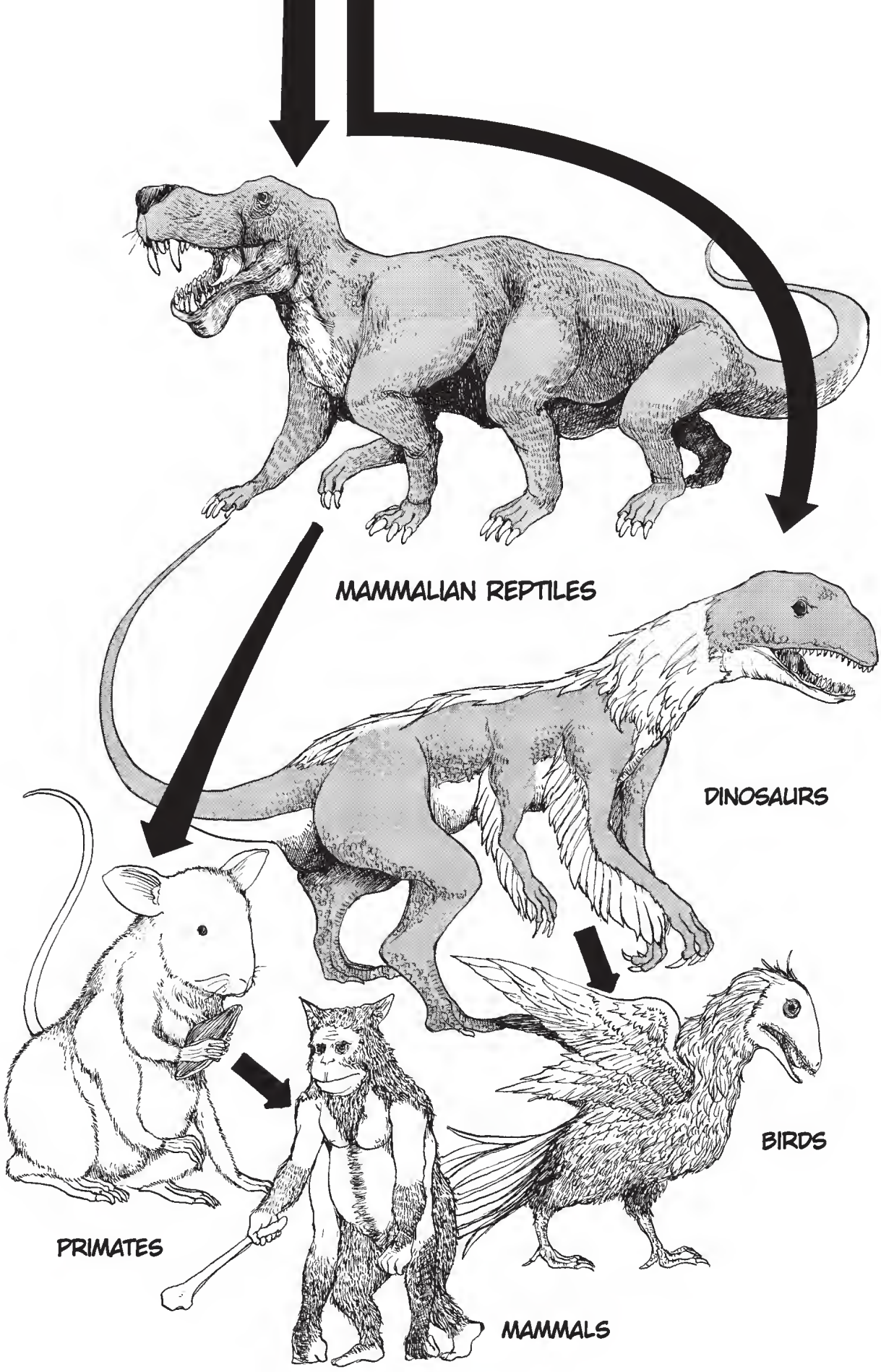
THE MIDDLE LIMBS ARE A NOT A UNIQUE FEATURE FOR CANINES. MANY MAMMALS USE THESE EXTRA LEGS FOR TRAVELING LONG DISTANCES. THEY ARE A GENETICALLY DOMINANT TRAIT, SO IT IS UNCOMMON FOR A POPULATION TO LOSE THEIR MIDDLE LIMBS UNLESS THE SPECIES UNDERGOES REGULAR MUTATION. THIS FEATURE IS PRESENT REGARDLESS OF SPECIES, HUNTING STYLE, OR DOMESTICATION.

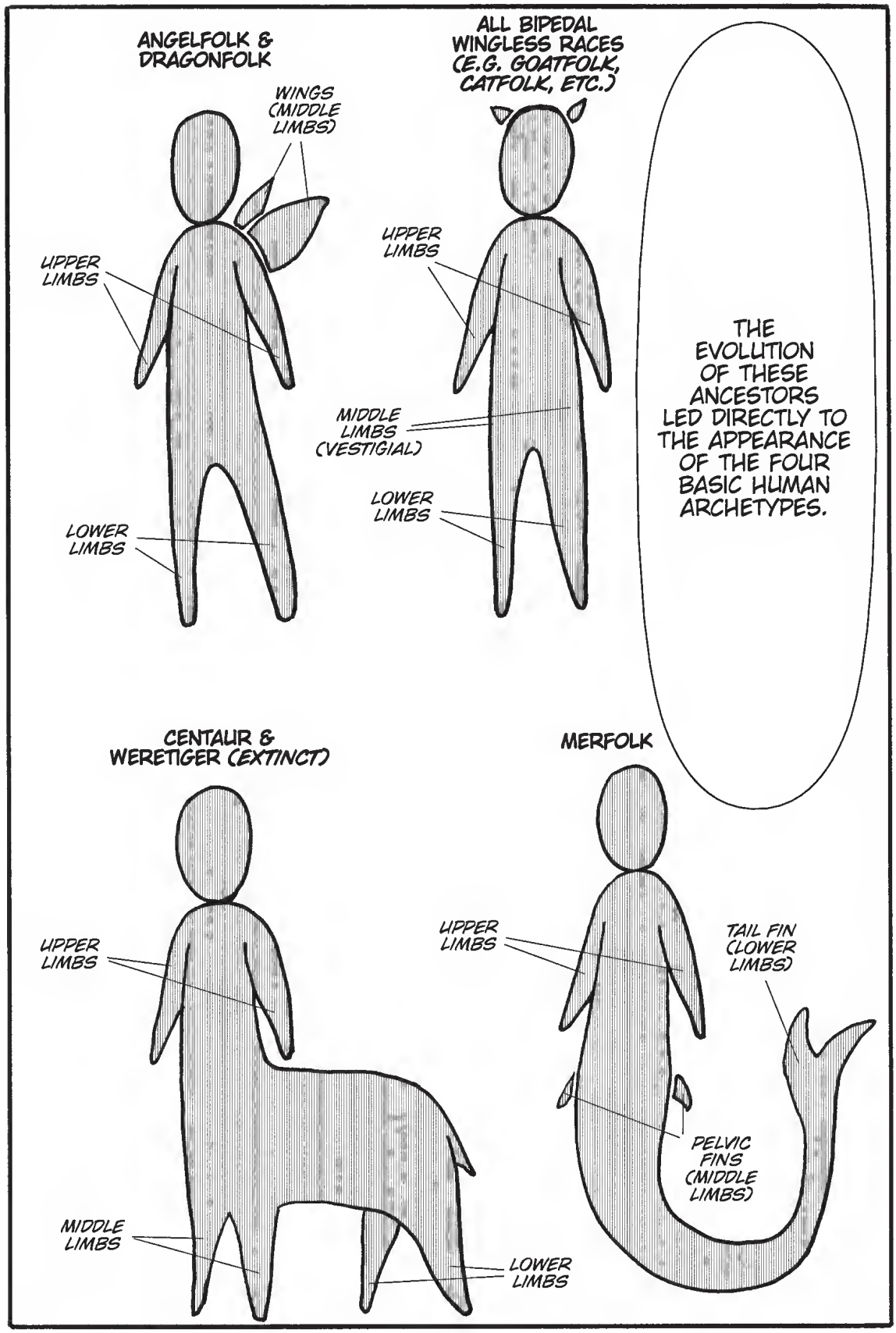


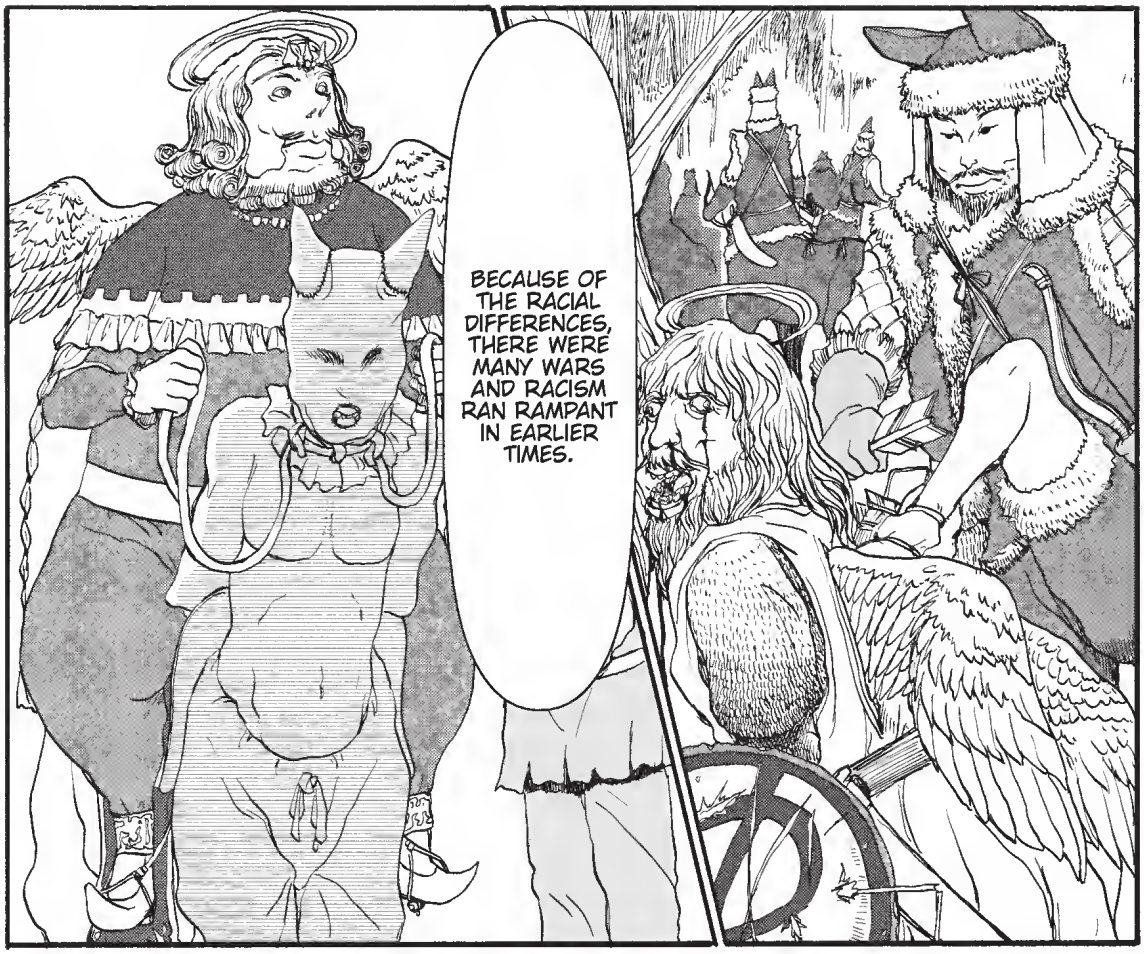
CENTAUR'S SECRET ~LECTURE ON BIOLOGY AND GENETICS~

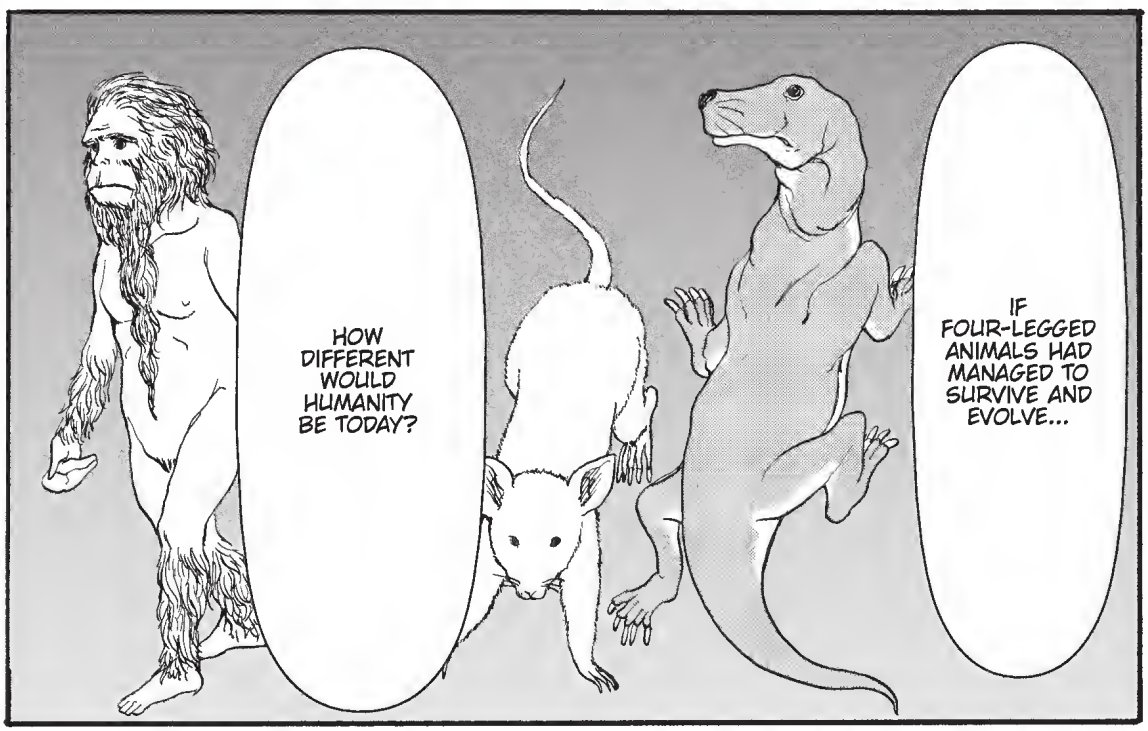


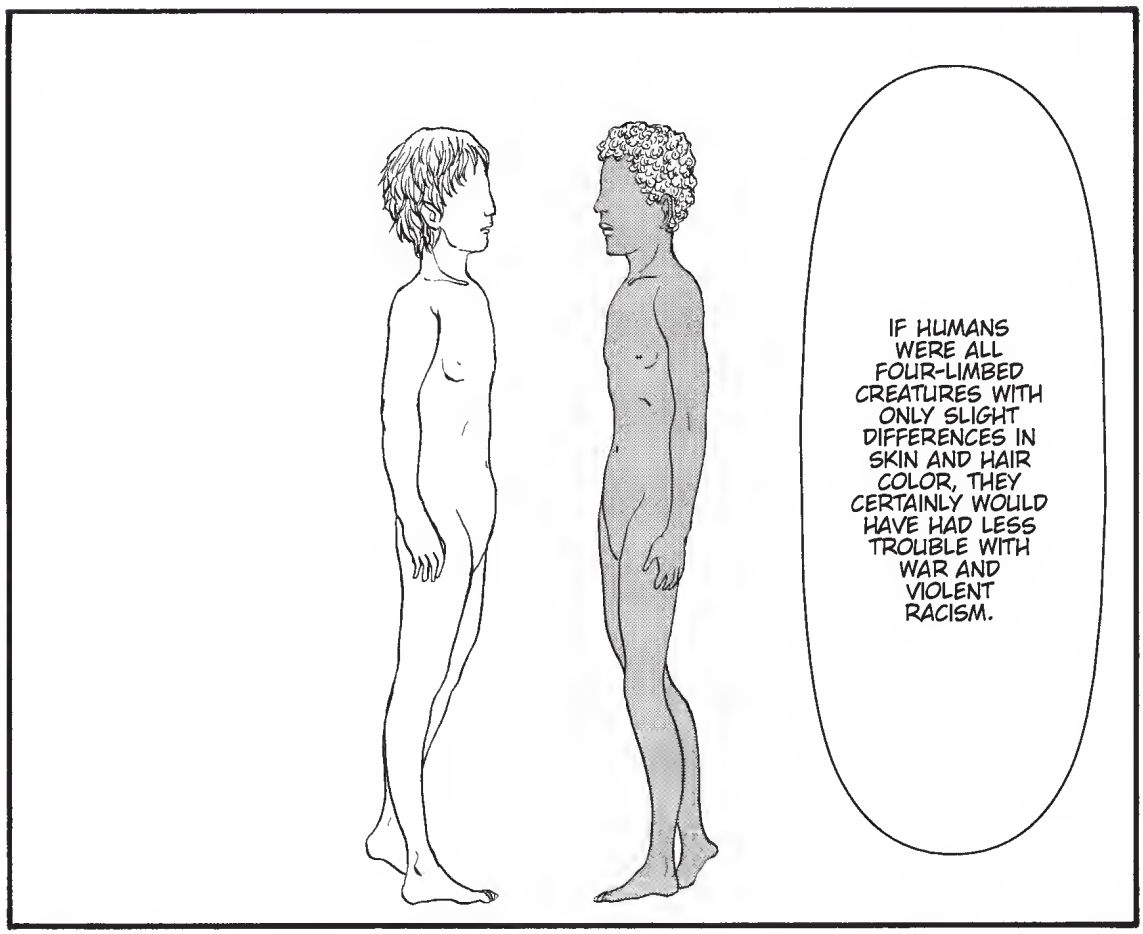

IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A MORE BENEFICIAL MUTATION TO HAVE SIX LEGS, HOLDING UP THEIR BODIES AND PROTECTING THEIR SOFT UNDER-BELLIES.
FROM THE FOSSIL RECORD, WE KNOW THAT THERE WERE ALSO FOUR-LEGGED AMPHIBIANS, BUT THEY FAILED TO THRIVE AND EVENTUALLY WENT EXTINCT.
REPTILES
EXTINCT

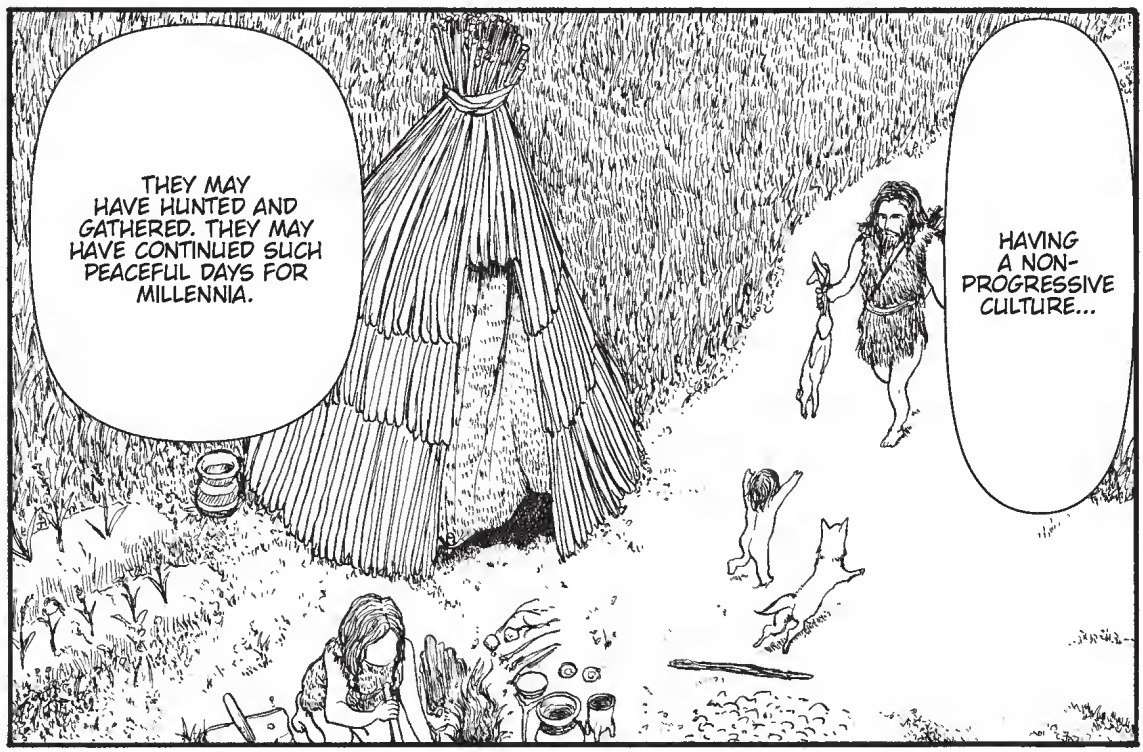

MAMMALIAN REPTILES
DINOSAURS
BIRDS
PRIMATES
MAMMALS

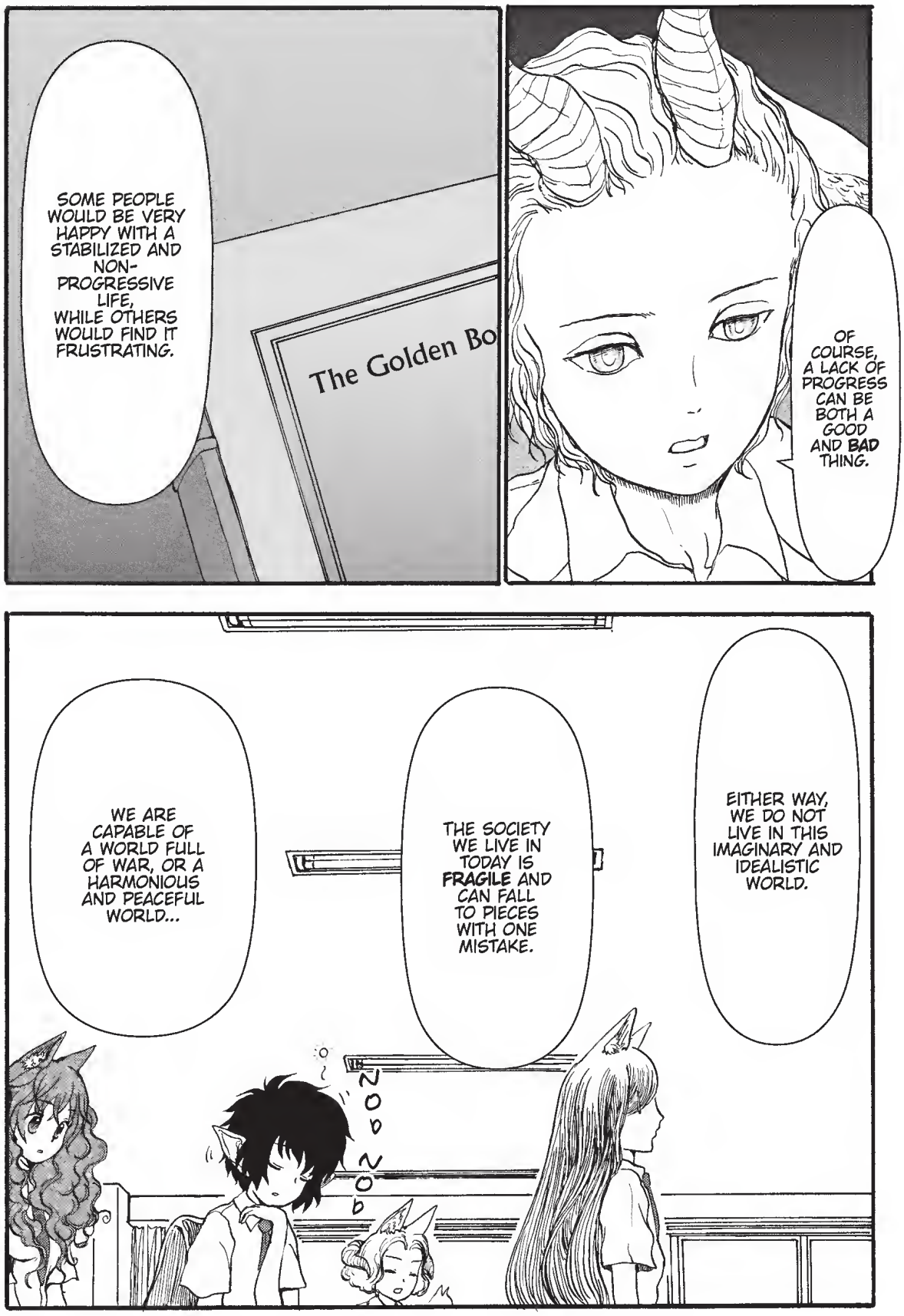

ANGELFOLK & DRAGONFOLK
WINGS (MIDDLE LIMBS)
UPPER LIMBS
LOWER LIMBS
ALL BIPEDAL WINGLESS RACES (E.G. GOATFOLK, CATFOLK, ETC.)
UPPER LIMBS
MIDDLE LIMBS (VESTIGIAL)
LOWER LIMBS
THE EVOLUTION OF THESE ANCESTORS LED DIRECTLY TO THE APPEARANCE OF THE FOUR BASIC HUMAN ARCHETYPES.
CENTAUR & WERETIGER (EXTINCT)
UPPER LIMBS
MIDDLE LIMBS
LOWER LIMBS
MERFOLK
UPPER LIMBS
TAIL FIN (LOWER LIMBS)
PELVIC FINS (MIDDLE LIMBS)

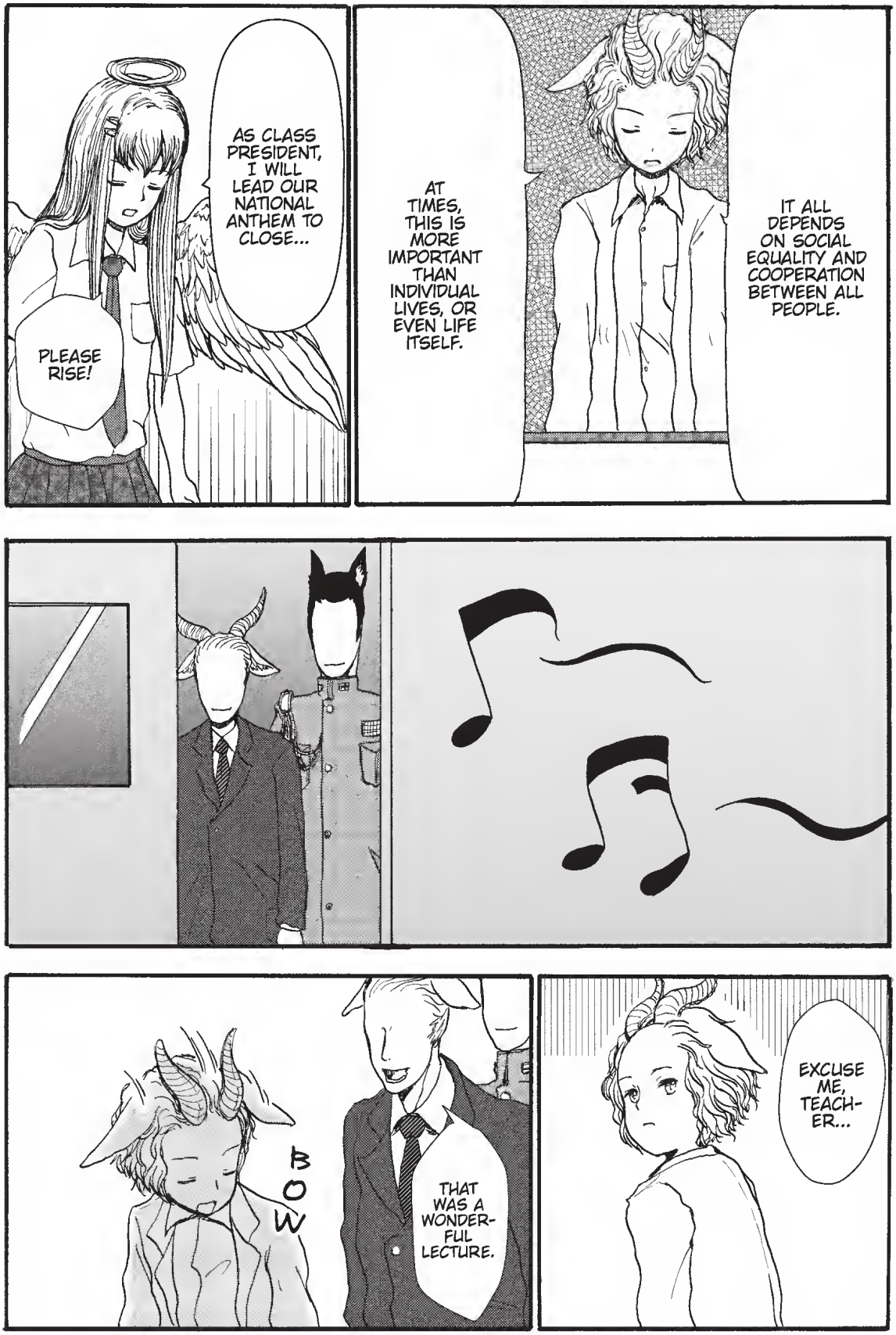

BECAUSE OF THE RACIAL DIFFERENCES, THERE WERE MANY WARS AND RACISM RAN RAMPANT IN EARLIER TIMES.


HOW DIFFERENT WOULD HUMANITY BE TODAY?
IF FOUR-LEGGED ANIMALS HAD MANAGED TO SURVIVE AND EVOLVE...

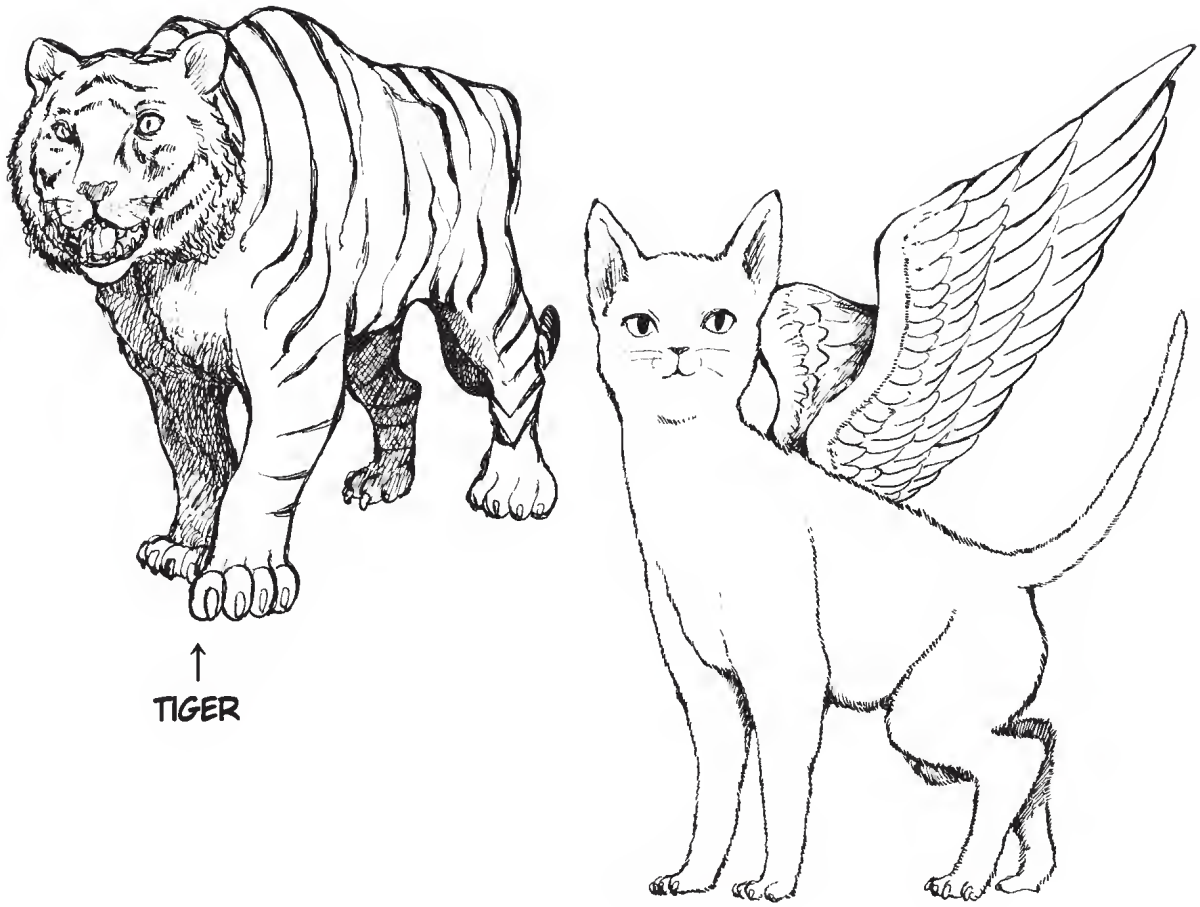

IF HUMANS WERE ALL FOUR-LIMBED CREATURES WITH ONLY SLIGHT DIFFERENCES IN SKIN AND HAIR COLOR, THEY CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE HAD LESS TROUBLE WITH WAR AND VIOLENT RACISM.


THEY MAY HAVE HUNTED AND GATHERED. THEY MAY HAVE CONTINUED SUCH PEACEFUL DAYS FOR MILLENNIA.
HAVING A NON-PROGRESSIVE CULTURE...


SOME PEOPLE WOULD BE VERY HAPPY WITH A STABILIZED AND NON-PROGRESSIVE LIFE, WHILE OTHERS WOULD FIND IT FRUSTRATING.
The Golden Bo
OF COURSE, A LACK OF PROGRESS CAN BE BOTH A GOOD AND BAD THING.
WE ARE CAPABLE OF A WORLD FULL OF WAR, OR A HARMONIOUS AND PEACEFUL WORLD...
THE SOCIETY WE LIVE IN TODAY IS FRAGILE AND CAN FALL TO PIECES WITH ONE MISTAKE.
EITHER WAY, WE DO NOT LIVE IN THIS IMAGINARY AND IDEALISTIC WORLD.
NODNOD


AS CLASS PRESIDENT, I WILL LEAD OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM TO CLOSE...
PLEASE RISE!
AT TIMES, THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN INDIVIDUAL LIVES, OR EVEN LIFE ITSELF.
IT ALL DEPENDS ON SOCIAL EQUALITY AND COOPERATION BETWEEN ALL PEOPLE.
BOW
THAT WAS A WONDER-FUL LECTURE.
EXCUSE ME, TEACH-ER...

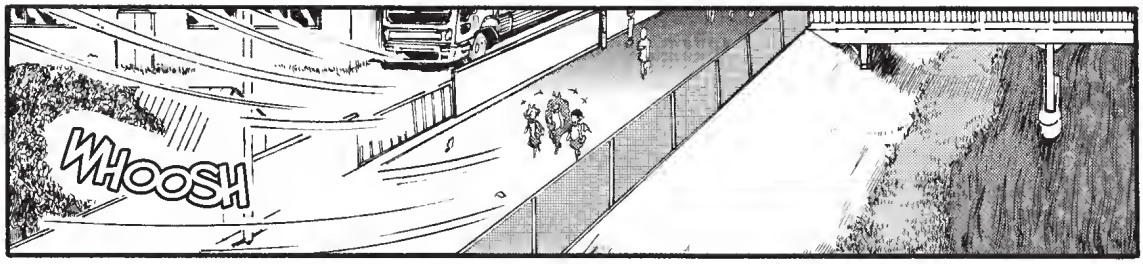
A CentaUr's Life



FELINES

ORDER *CARNIVORA*, FAMILY *FELIDAE*. AS WITH THE DOMESTIC DOG FROM FAMILY *CANIDAE*, THE DOMESTIC HOUSECAT (*FELIS SYLVESTRIS CATUS*) IS AN ICONIC PET. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THEY WERE DOMESTICATED FROM WILDCATS (*FELIS SYVESTRIS*), SUPPORTED BY DNA TEST RESULTS SHOWING HIGH PROBABILITY THAT MODERN HOUSECATS ARE CLOSE DESCENDANTS OF THE WILDCAT. SUBFAMILY *FELINAE* INCLUDES SMALL CATS SUCH AS HOUSECATS AND WILDCATS AS WELL AS SOME MEDIUM-SIZED CATS SUCH AS THE LYNX AND COUGAR. SUBFAMILY *PANTHERINAE* INCLUDES LARGER CATS SUCH AS THE TIGER, LION, LEOPARD, AND JAGUAR.

MOST MEMBERS OF FAMILY *FELIDAE* HAVE LOST THEIR MIDDLE LIMBS OR HAVE EVOLVED THEM FOR OTHER USES THAN WALKING. FOR INSTANCE, THE TIGER (*PANTHERA TIGRIS*) ONLY HAS VESTIGIAL REMNANTS OF THEIR MIDDLE LIMBS WHICH ARE EASY TO MISS AT FIRST GLANCE. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS IS AN ADAPTATION TO THEIR POUNCING STYLE OF HUNTING. MANY PUREBRED HOUSECATS HAVE SUBSTANTIAL WINGS, BUT THIS IS A RESULT OF HUMAN BREEDING FOR DESIRABLE TRAITS. WING SIZE DECREASES IN NON-PUREBRED OFFSPRING. WILDCATS HAVE VERY SMALL WINGS.

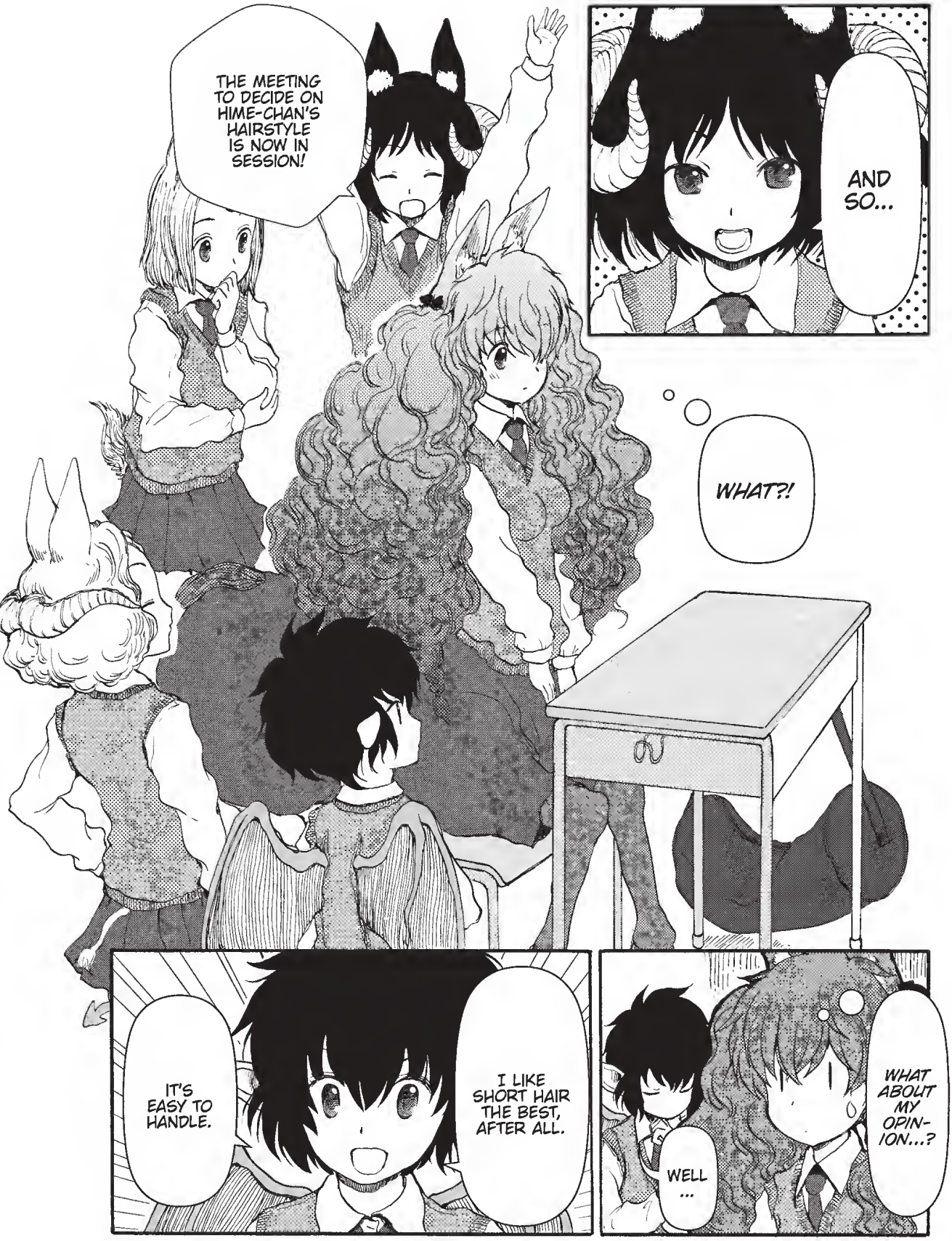


CHAPTER 6

THEY WERE WHITE ...
IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
S-
SORRY!
YEAH, I KEEP MEANING TO CUT IT...
YOUR HAIR HAS GOTTEN REALLY LONG, THOUGH!
BUT I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO DO IT.
DOES IT SEEM LIKE A WASTE?

You bought something useless again!
AND MONEY IS TIGHT, SO I DON'T ASK FOR AN ALLOW-ANCE...
Hair Studio
La Paris
MORE THAT SALONS ARE SO PRICY...
IT SEEMS DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO MANAGE.
AND HAIR-DRESSERS DON'T REALLY LIKE CENTAURS AS CUSTOMERS.
IT'S DIFFICULT FOR ME TO EVEN BRUSH AROUND MY OWN HORNS.
Specialty Brush
IT'S TOUGH IF YOUR STYLIST IS A DIFFERENT RACE THAN YOU.
OH, THAT MAKES SENSE.

WE DON'T ALL HAVE A BOY CUT LIKE YOU.
YOU'RE THE CUSTOMER, REMEMBER?
YOU'RE PAYING THEM TO DO IT, SO DON'T BE SO SHY.
THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
YOU'RE A GIRL! YOU SHOULD TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOUR HAIR.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?
SCRATCH
MEH... TOO MUCH WORK.
LONG HAIR JUST GETS IN THE WAY. SHORT HAIR IS BETTER.
WHY DON'T YOU GROW YOUR HAIR LONG, NOZOMI-CHAN?
YOU'D LOOK SO PRETTY.

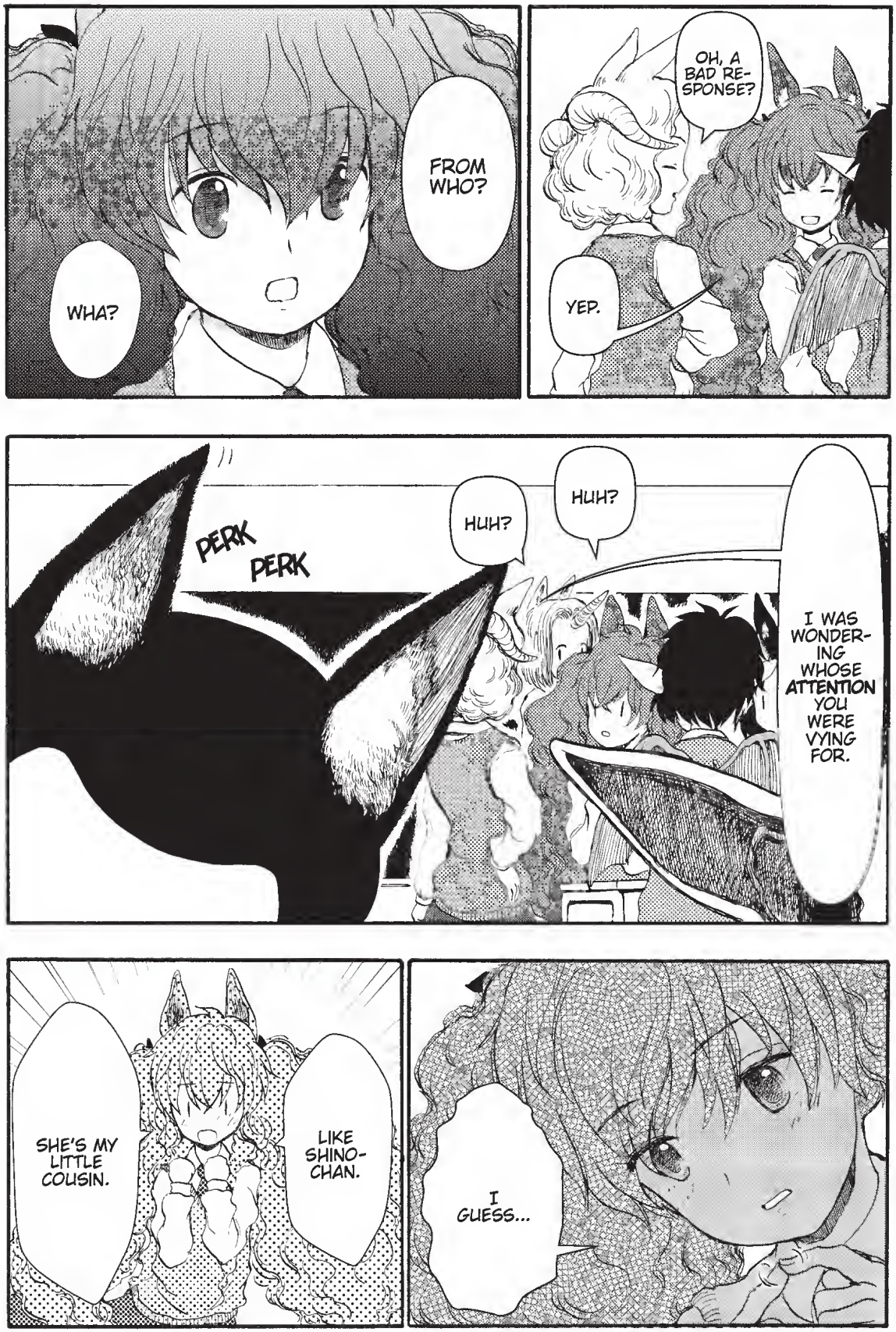

AND SO...
THE MEETING TO DECIDE ON HIME-CHAN'S HAIRSTYLE IS NOW IN SESSION!
WHAT?!
WHAT ABOUT MY OPIN-ION...?
WELL ...
I LIKE SHORT HAIR THE BEST, AFTER ALL.
IT'S EASY TO HANDLE.

I BET SHE'D ACTUALLY LOOK GOOD LIKE THAT.
REFRESHED
NO WAY!
THAT'S NOT PRINCESS-LIKE AT ALL!
HIME-CHAN SHOULD HAVE SOMETHING MORE... GORGEOUS, BAROQUE, ROCOCO.
HER FACIAL FEATURES ARE VERY CLEAR AND LARGE.

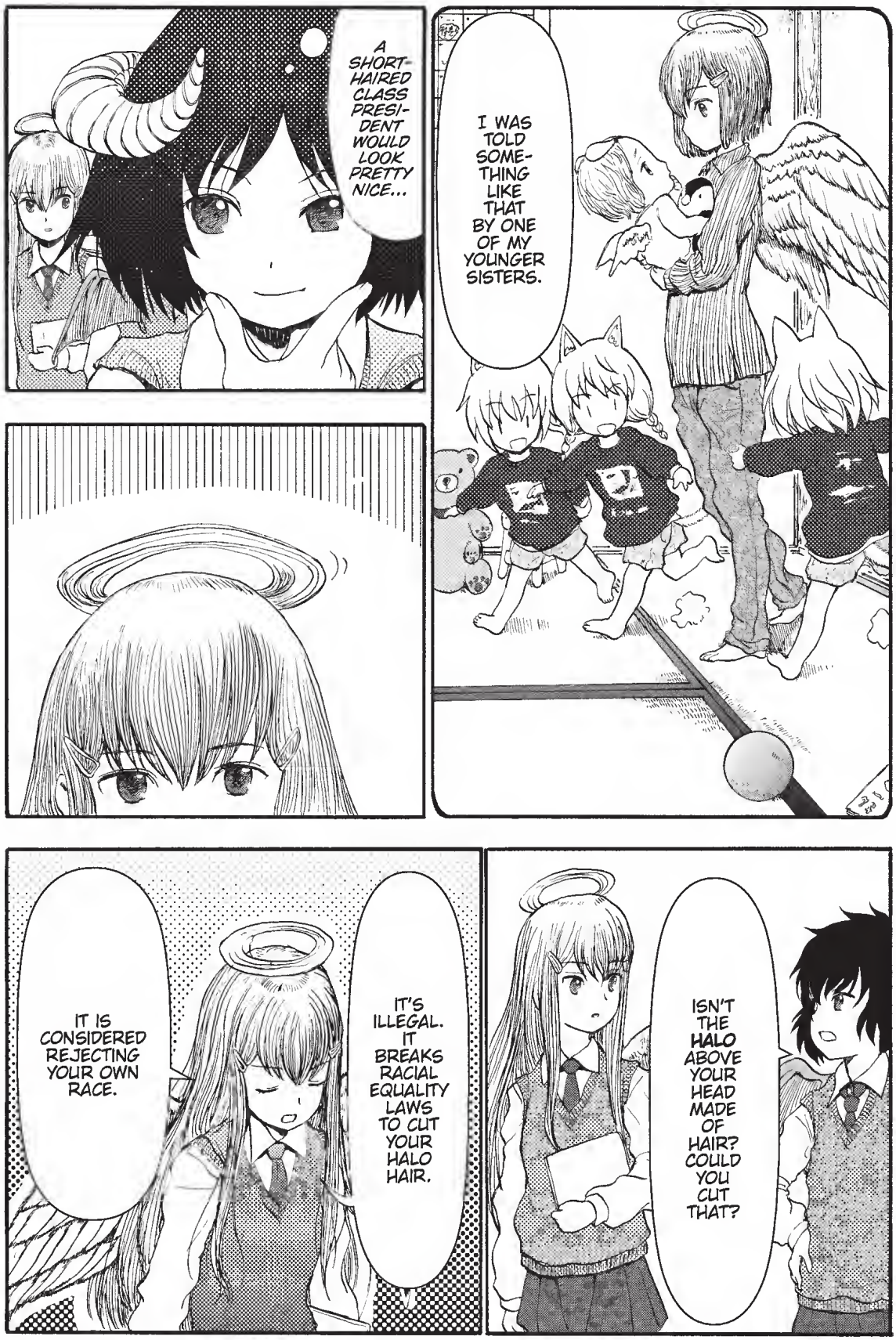
AND SECOND-LY...
WHAT'S WITH THOSE CLOTHES?
SHE SHOULD ACTU-ALLY...
STRENGTH-EN THOSE POINTS EVEN MORE.
SO... PRINCESS CURLS?
AREN'T THOSE REALLY HARD TO TAKE CARE OF?
YOU KNOW, THE ARISTOCRATS IN THE PAST DIDN'T WASH THEIR HAIR.
MANY OF THEM WORE WIGS.
THAT'S FINE.
THEN WE COULD COSPLAY ALMOST ANYTHING.

PLEASE, NOT THAT.
YOU MIGHT EVEN APPEAR IN SOME COSPLAY MAGA-ZINES!
CLENCH
YEAH! I BET YOU'D BE REALLY POPULAR!
6
BUT... I BET SHE'D LOOK GREAT JUST GETTING HER HAIR STRAIGHT-ENED.
WHO IS THIS?
OH, THAT MIGHT BE GOOD. THEN, WITH A COLD GAZE, SHE'D BE AN ICE PRINCESS.

BUT THAT WON'T SOLVE THE PROBLEM AT ALL!
IT SENDS SHIVERS OF EXCITEMENT DOWN MY SPINE!
WELL, I WAS THINKING OF CUTTING IT TO MY SHOULDERS.
THEY FINALLY ASKED ME!
TO BEGIN WITH, WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS, HIME-CHAN?
BUT, I GOT A BAD RESPONSE WHEN I CUT IT SHORT IN THE PAST.
YOU GOT DUMPED?
What--?!
Again?!
SNAG
IT'S SO MUCH TROUBLE WHEN IT'S LONG.
Sometimes I accidentally catch on it.


WHA?
FROM WHO?
OH, A BAD RESPONSE?
YEP.
PERK PERK
HUH?
HUH?
I WAS WONDERING WHOSE ATTENTION YOU WERE VYING FOR.
SHE'S MY LITTLE COUSIN.
LIKE SHINO-CHAN.
I GUESS...

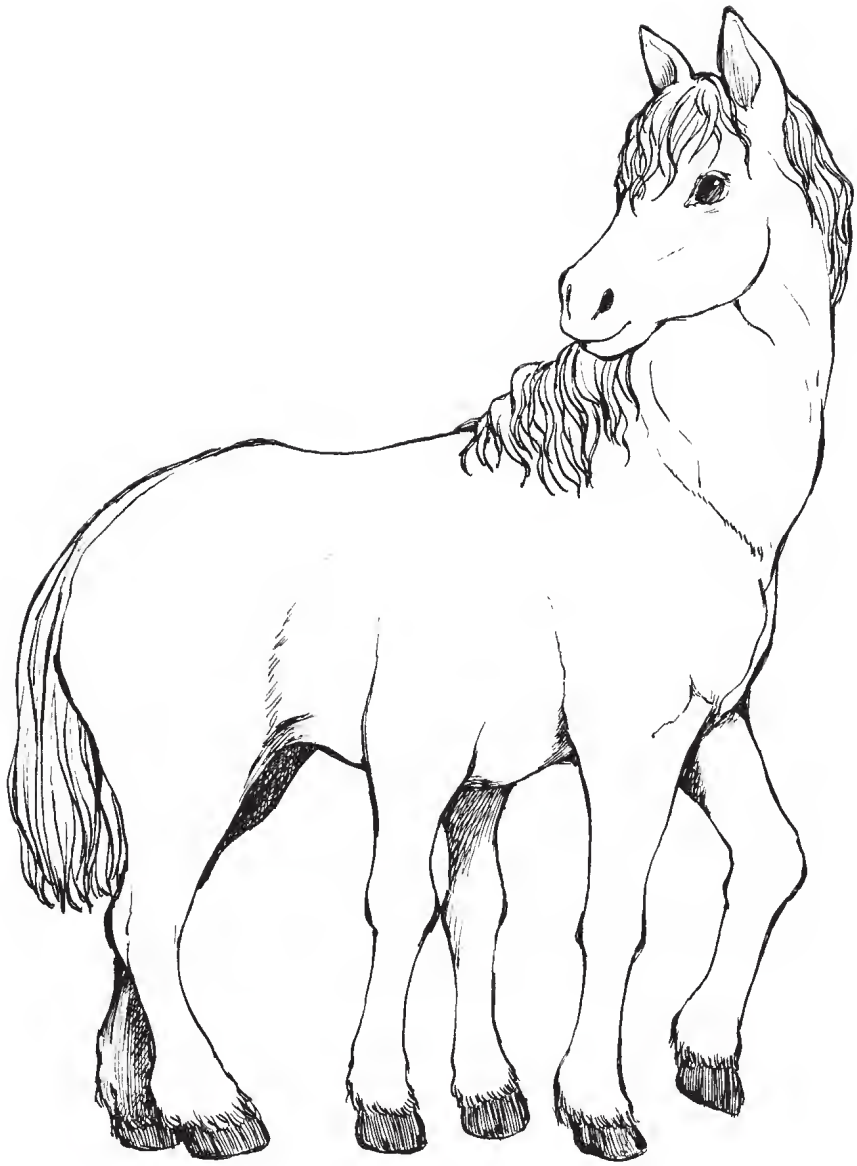
BIG SISTER, YOU QUIT BEING A PWINCESS?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY NEW HAIR-STYLE?
HUH?
SHINO WANTS HER BIG SIS TO STAY A PWINCESS.
WELL, I UNDERSTAND THAT FEELING.
OH, CLASS PRESI-DENT.
Seriously~?
I KNOW, BUT IT'S TRUE!


A SHORT-HAIRED CLASS PRESI-DENT WOULD LOOK PRETTY NICE...
I WAS TOLD SOME-THING LIKE THAT BY ONE OF MY YOUNGER SISTERS.
ISN'T THE HALO ABOVE YOUR HEAD MADE OF HAIR? COULD YOU CUT THAT?
IT'S ILLEGAL. IT BREAKS RACIAL EQUALITY LAWS TO CUT YOUR HALO HAIR.
IT IS CONSIDERED REJECTING YOUR OWN RACE.

BUT IT'S KIND OF A PAIN...
And it looks ugly while growing back.
OF COURSE, WHEN IT ACCIDENTALLY GETS CUT OR FALLS OUT BY DISEASE...
Protective Tube
THE HOSPITAL OR SALON WILL GIVE YOU A CERTIFICATE OF PROOF THAT IT WAS NOT INTENTIONALLY REMOVED.
That sounds stressful...
You've got it the easiest.
THAT'S KIND OF A BUMMER.
COME TO THINK OF IT, DO YOU CUT YOUR TAIL HAIR TOO?
THE HAIRS FALL OUT ON THEIR OWN ONCE THEY REACH A CERTAIN LENGTH, BUT THERE ARE LOTS OF STYLING OPTIONS FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO STYLE THEM.
A FLUFFED TAIL WOULD MATCH.
Gah! Quit staring at it!

Morning!
Good morning!
YOU REALLY COULD JUST CUT IT SHORT.
I THINK IT LOOKS NICE THE WAY IT IS.
SHE LOOKS A LITTLE LOLITA... IT'S REALLY CUTE!
CHATTER CHATTER
I HAD MY TAIL FLUFFED, TOO,
BUT NOBODY NOTICED...!

A CentaUr's Life

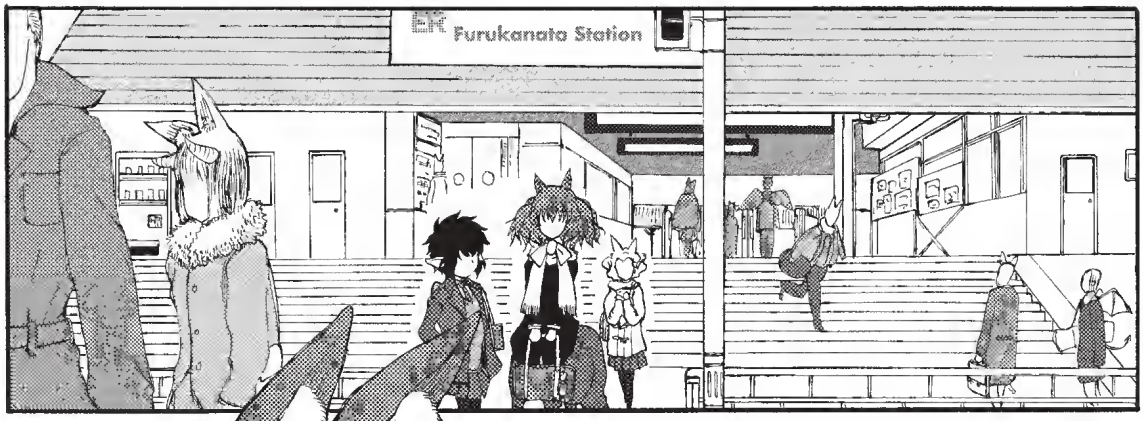


EQUINES

ORDER *PERISSODACTYLA*, FAMILY *EQUIDAE*. EQUINES SUCH AS HORSES, DONKEYS, AND MULES ARE ICONIC SPECIES OF LIVESTOCK.

ALL MEMBERS OF ORDER *PERISSODACTYLA* HAVE MIDDLE LIMBS, AND THE MAJORITY OF THEIR WEIGHT IS ON THEIR THIRD PHALANGES. HORSES HAVE PUT EMPHASIS ON THEIR THIRD PHALANGES AND THEIR OTHERS HAVE FADED AWAY. THEIR HOOVES ARE MOSTLY MADE OF KERATIN, THE MATERIAL THAT MAKES UP HUMAN FINGERNAILS. ALTHOUGH THEY LOOK PHYSICALLY SIMILAR TO THE LOWER HALF OF THE CENTAUR RACE, IT IS BELIEVED THIS IS DUE TO CONVERGENT EVOLUTION. THERE ARE MANY VARIANTS THAT REJECT THE IDEA OF PARALLEL EVOLUTION FROM A COMMON ANCESTOR.

PERISSODACTYLA APPEARED TO HAVE FLOURISHED IN THE TERTIARY PERIOD OF THE CENOZOIC ERA, BUT UNLIKE THE BOVINES (ORDER *ARTIODACTYLA*, FAMILY *BOVINAE*) WITH THEIR COMPLEX STOMACHS, IT SEEMS THEY WEREN'T ABLE TO COMPETE WITH THE CHANGING DIETS. CURRENTLY THERE ARE ONLY THREE FAMILIES IN EXISTENCE: *EQUIDAE* (INCLUDES THE HORSE, ZEBRA, AND ASS), *RHINOCEROTIDAE* (RHINOCEROS), AND *TAPIRIDAE* (TAPIR).



CHAPTER 7

THEY SHOULD START SCHOOL AT A LATER TIME OR SOME-THING.
YOU'RE SUCH A WIMP ABOUT THE COLD.
WHY DOES WINTER HAVE TO BE SO COLD?
YOU DO MID-WINTER WATER-FALL TRAINING, RIGHT?
I DON'T DO THAT KIND OF TRAINING.
SPLOOSH
I'M NOT TRAINED WITH COLD WATER SHOCKS LIKE YOU.
I'm weak.
ALL THIS WINTER TALK IS MAKING ME EVEN COLDER...
THAT'S NOT MY THING AT ALL.
NO WAY! THAT'S MY OLD MAN'S PERFOR-MANCE.

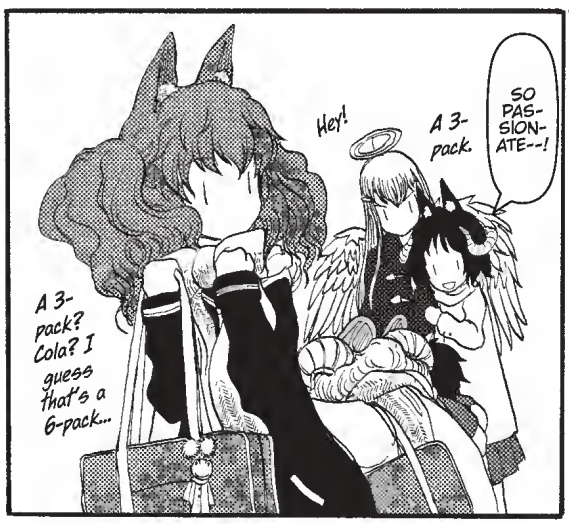
HEY! I SAID STOP IT!
HON-ESTLY!
YOU'RE SO WARM...
C'MON, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
THWACK
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S COST-ING YOU ANY-THING ...
WHOA! NOT MUCH UP TOP.

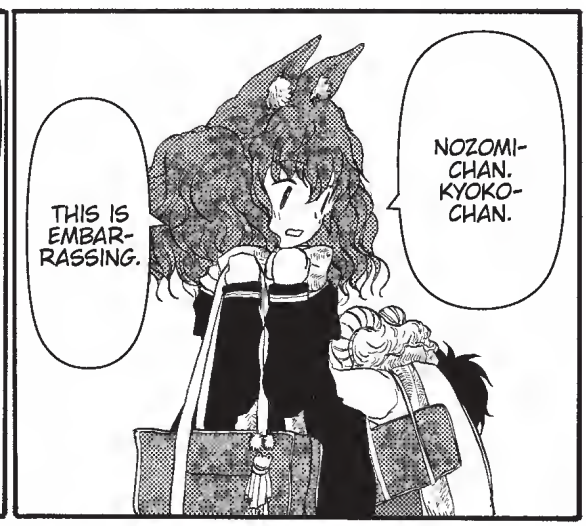
AH...!
I REALLY WISH I COULD, BUT...
SHE'S YOUR GIRL-FRIEND! DO SOME-THING ABOUT HER!
HEY...
GOOD MORNING.
HEY.
... MORN-ING.
GOOD MORNING, YOU THREE.
Good morning.
WHY NOT? THAT'S WHAT THESE WINGS ARE FOR, RIGHT?
THEY'RE FOR ME!
DON'T INVITE PEOPLE WITHOUT PERMIS-SION!
WHY DON'T YOU ALL JOIN IN AS WELL? IT'S WAAARM....

BESIDES, THE HYPOTHESIS THAT ANGELFOLK EVOLVED WINGS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM THE COLD...
IS ONLY ONE OF MANY DIFFERENT POSSIBILITIES.
IT MIGHT JUST BE FOR LOOKS LIKE HORNS, BUT...
THEY'RE ACTUALLY WARM, SO THAT'S HOW I'LL THINK OF THEM.
SO JEALOUS...
There there
WHUMP
Eep!

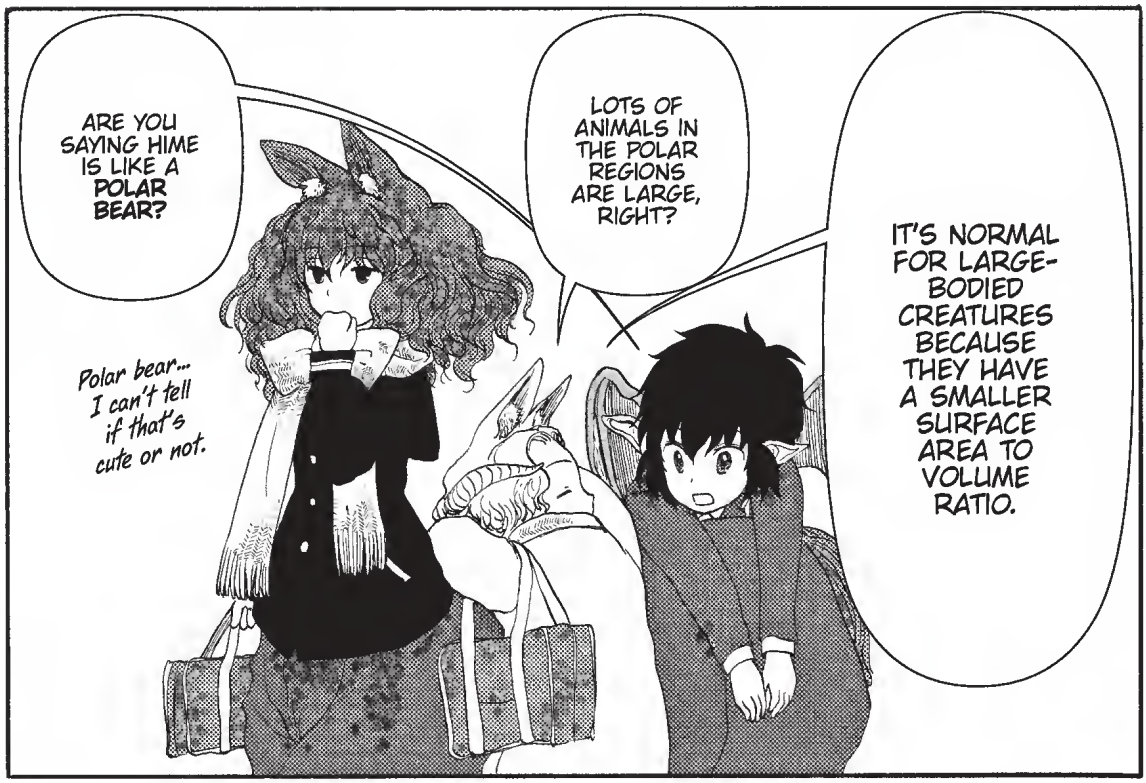
You're troubling Hime-chan!
CUT IT OUT!
AHHHH... SO WARM.
I'M SURE IT'D CROSS THE LINE IF I GOT ON TOP OF HER, BUT I'M JUST BORROWING HER SHOULDER.
ISN'T THIS AGAINST THE LAW?
I'M FINE.
Although it's a little embarrassing in public...!

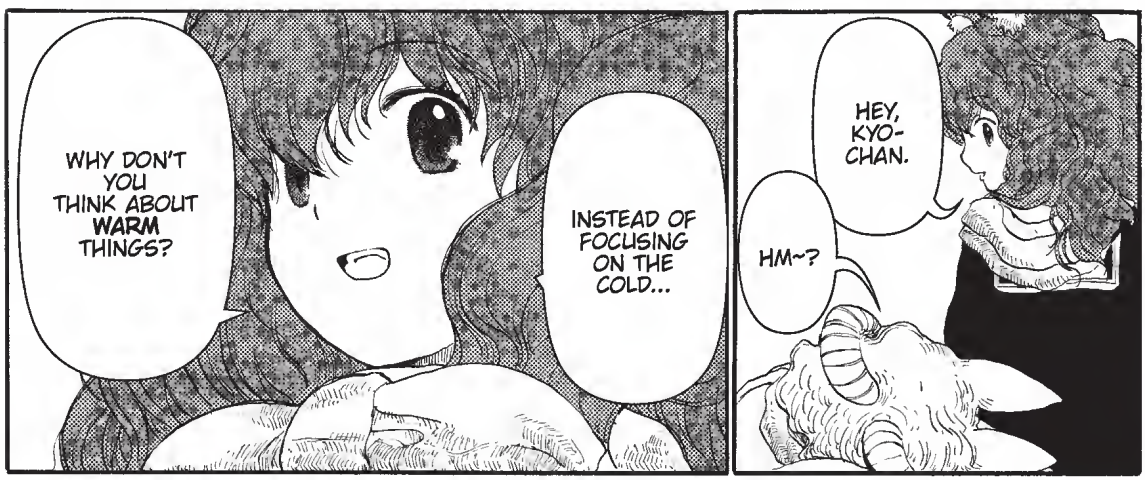
WHUMP
IN THAT CASE, ME TOO!
WH-WHAT?!

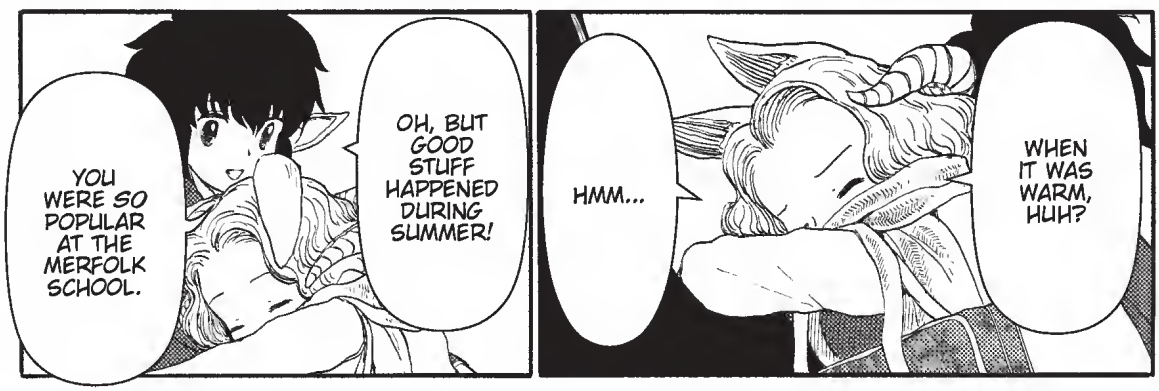

A 3-pack? Cola? I guess that's a 6-pack...
Hey!
A 3-pack.
SO PASSIONATE--!

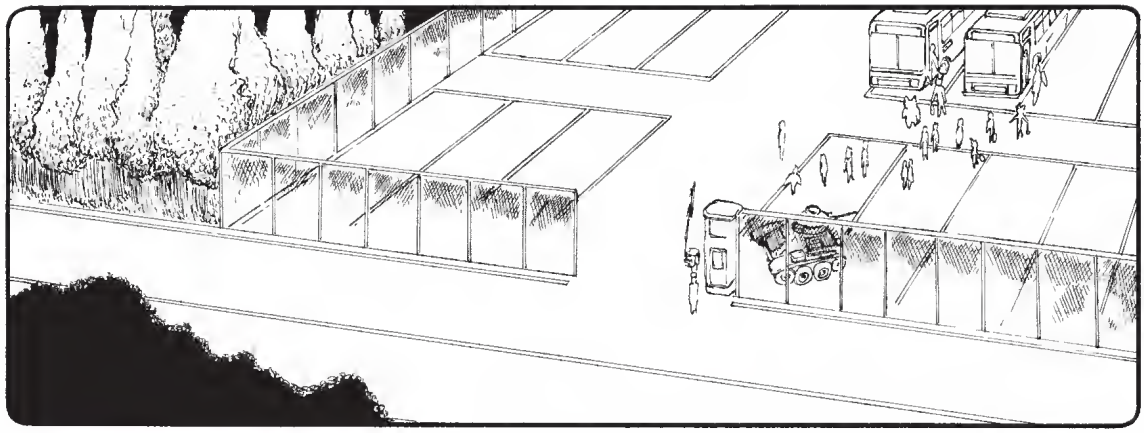

NOZOMI-CHAN. KYOKO-CHAN.
THIS IS EMBARRASSING.

I'M JEALOUS.
I WON'T LET YOU IN.
WHO'D WANT TO SNUGGLE UP TO YOU?!
HOW DO YOU TOLERATE THE TEMPERA-TURES?
I'M ALL RIGHT WITH THE COLD, BUT I HAVE TROUBLE WITH THE HEAT.
BUT, KYOKO, YOU DON'T LIKE THE COLD OR THE HEAT, RIGHT?
I'M BUILT VERY DELICATELY!

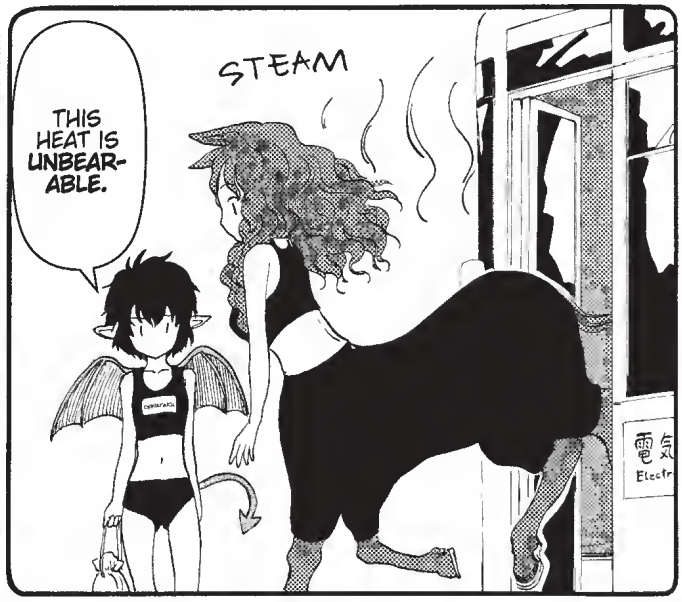

ARE YOU SAYING HIME IS LIKE A POLAR BEAR?
LOTS OF ANIMALS IN THE POLAR REGIONS ARE LARGE, RIGHT?
IT'S NORMAL FOR LARGE-BODIED CREATURES BECAUSE THEY HAVE A SMALLER SURFACE AREA TO VOLUME RATIO.
Polar bear... I can't tell if that's cute or not.


WHY DON'T YOU THINK ABOUT WARM THINGS?
INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON THE COLD...
HEY, KYO-CHAN.
HM~?


YOU WERE SO POPULAR AT THE MERFOLK SCHOOL.
OH, BUT GOOD STUFF HAPPENED DURING SUMMER!
HMM...
WHEN IT WAS WARM, HUH?

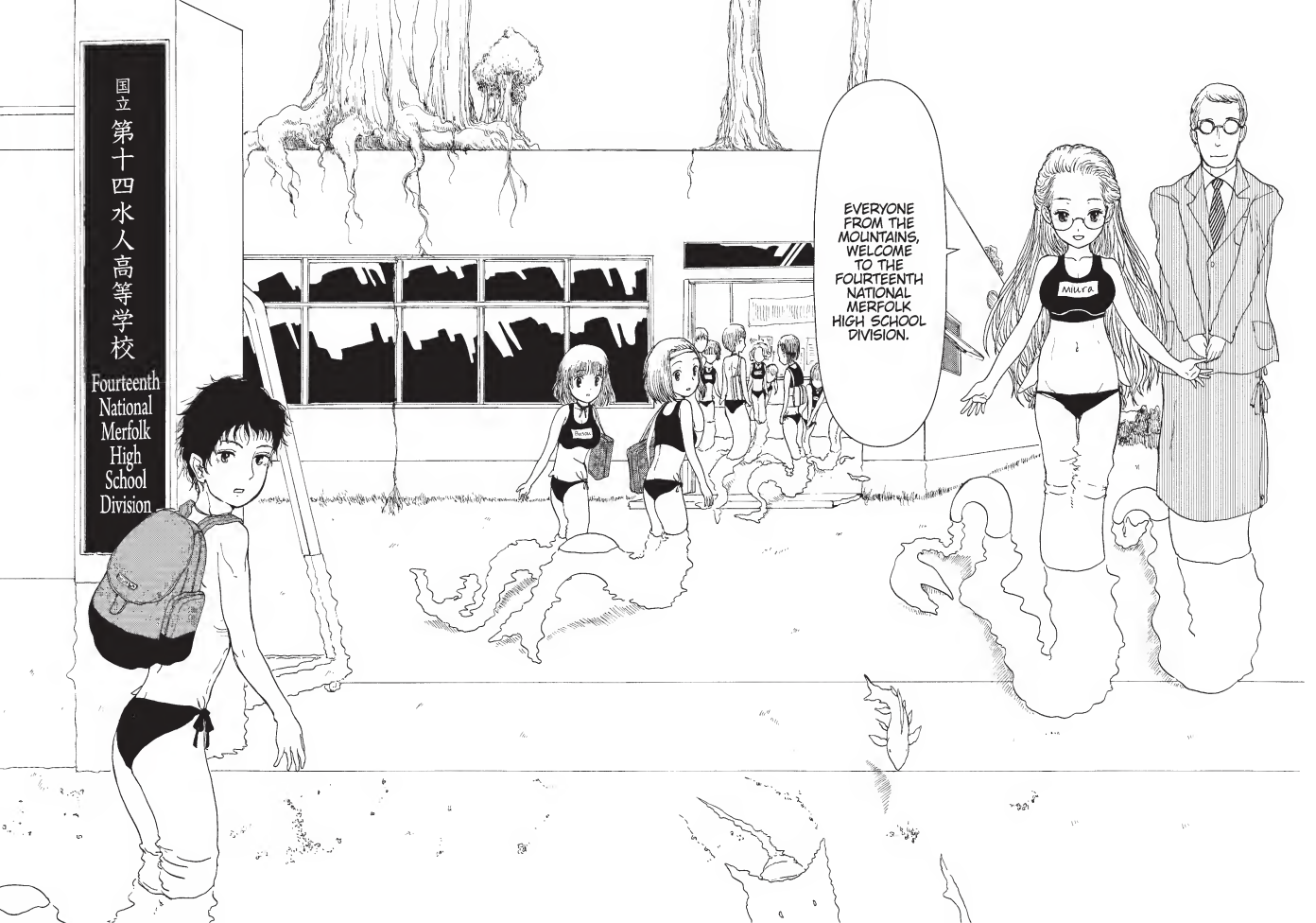


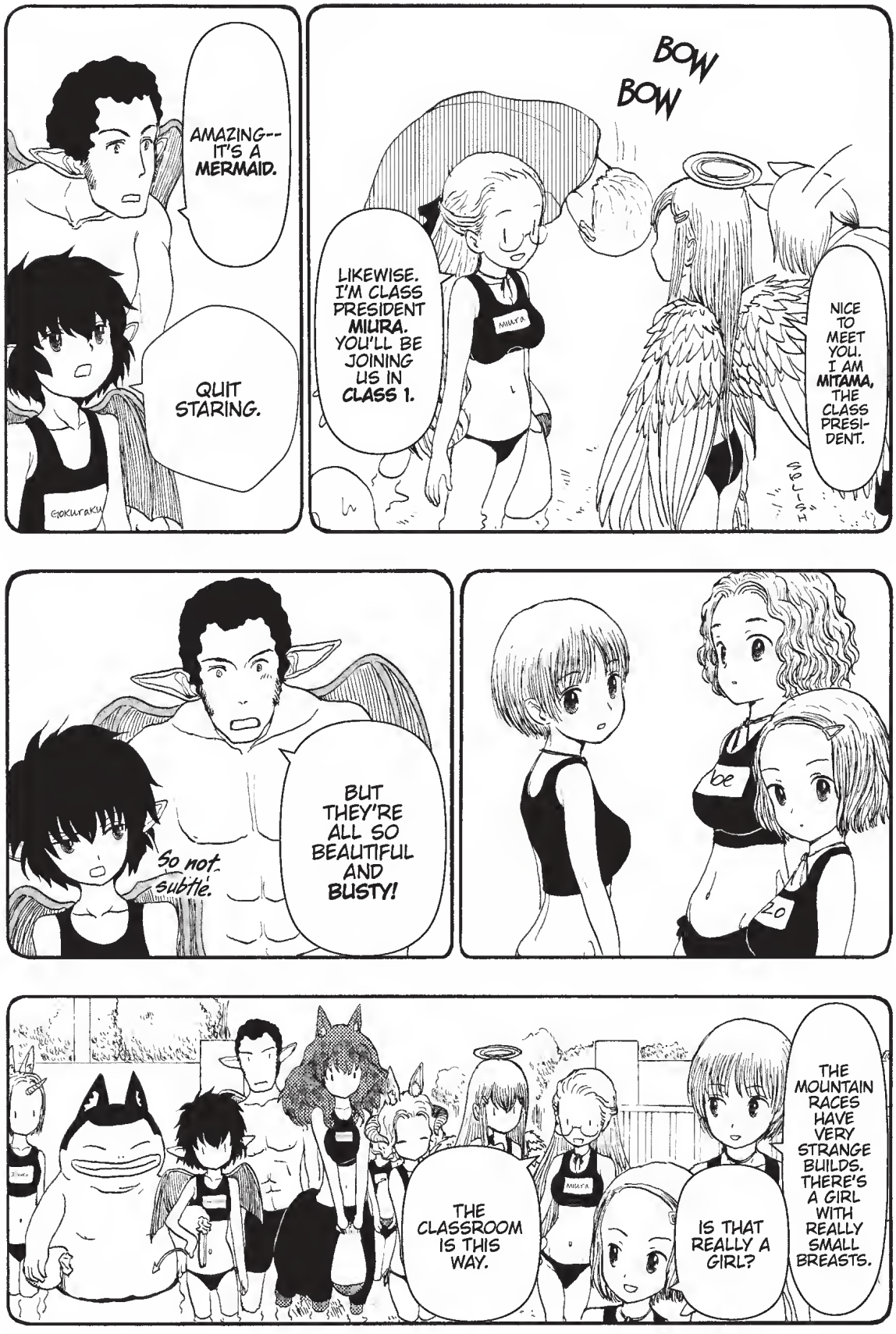
Watch your step.
WARNING
LITTERING IS AGAINST THE LAW VIOLATORS WILL BE SHOT ON SIGHT

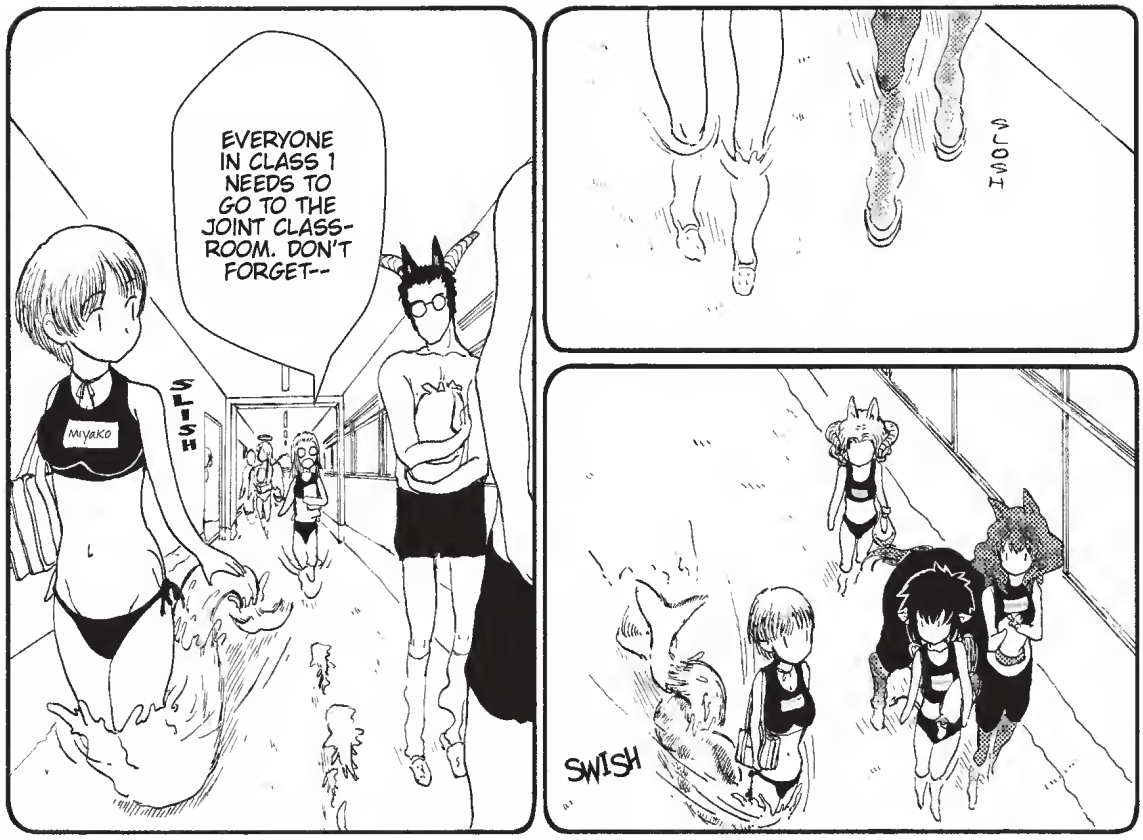

THIS HEAT IS UNBEAR-ABLE.
STEAM

SCREECH
SCREECH

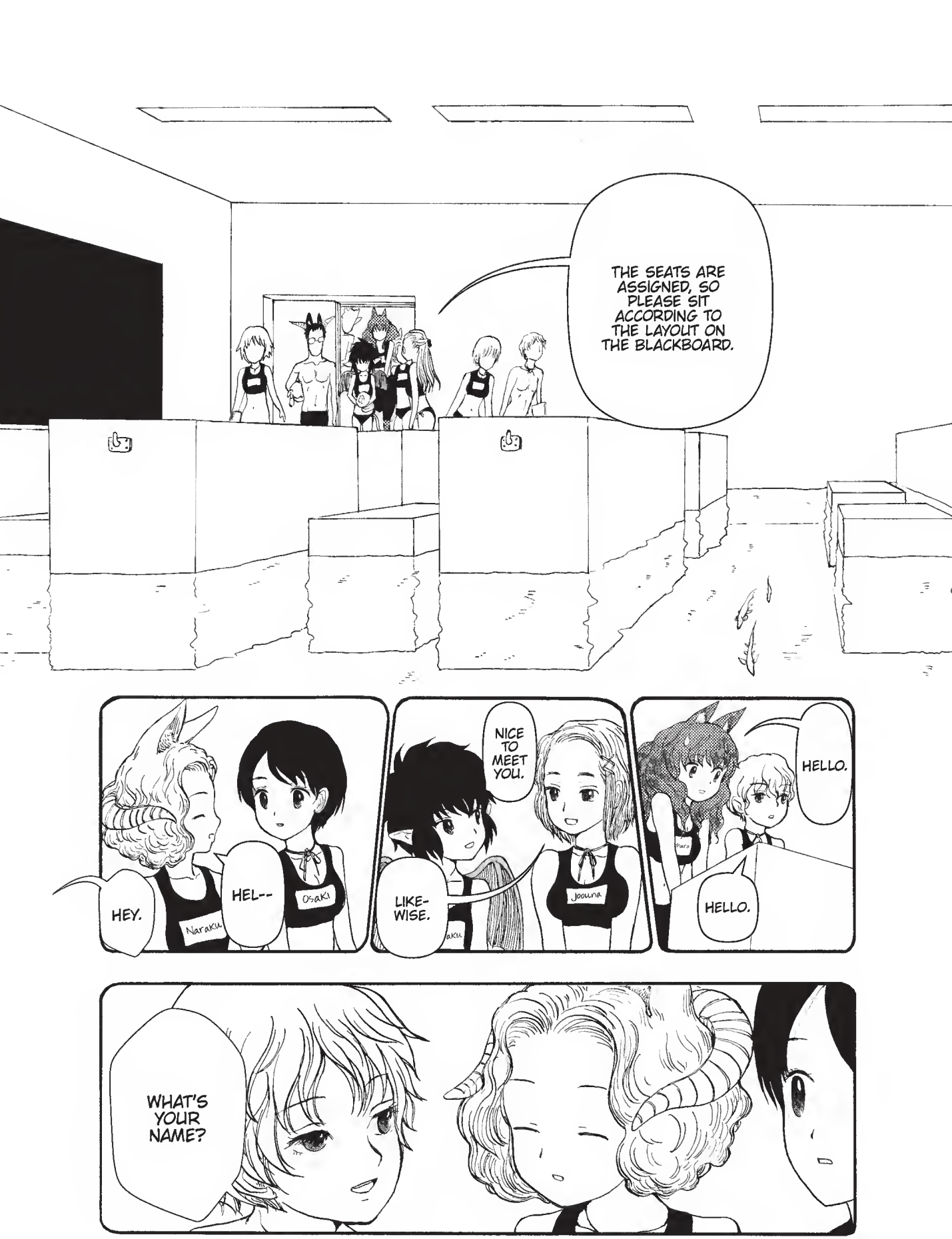
SNIFF
SNIFF
IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE IN A JUNGLE.
BUT IT SMELLS LIKE THE OCEAN.
GOKURAKU
OH!

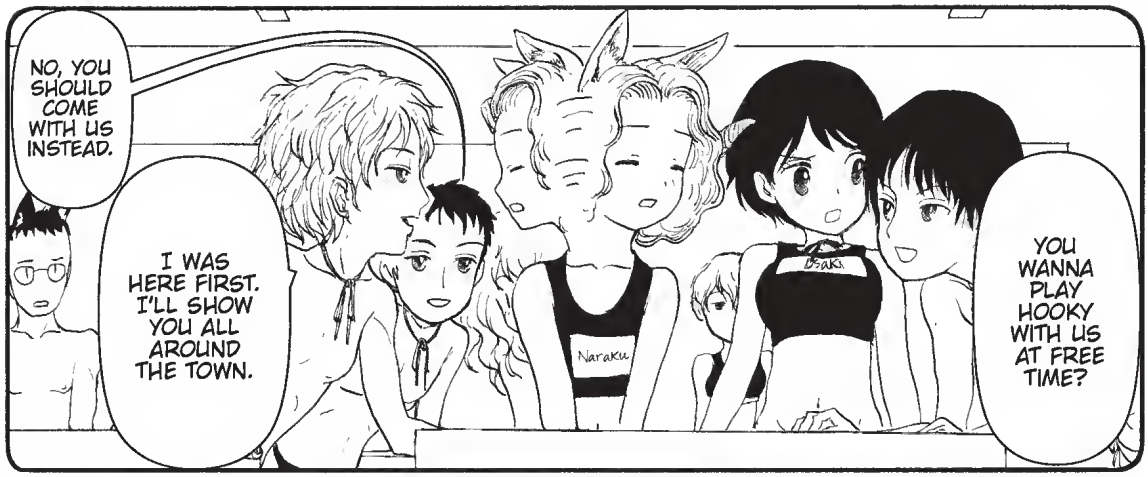

国立第十四水人高等学校
Fourteenth National Merfolk High School Division
EVERYONE FROM THE MOUNTAINS, WELCOME TO THE FOURTEENTH NATIONAL MERFOLK HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION.
MIURA

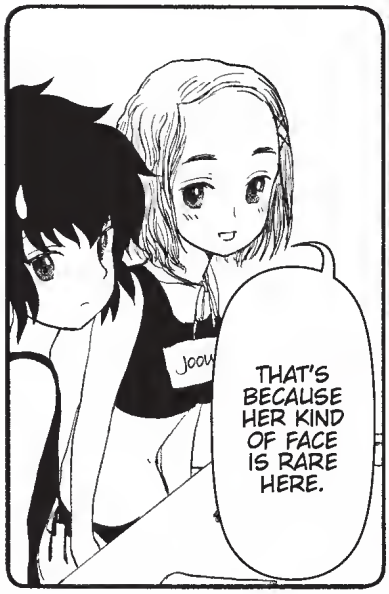

AMAZING-- IT'S A MERMAID.
QUIT STARING.
GOKURAKU
BOW
BOW
NICE TO MEET YOU. I AM MITAMA, THE CLASS PRESI-DENT.
SPLISH
LIKEWISE. I'M CLASS PRESIDENT MIURA. YOU'LL BE JOINING US IN CLASS 1.
MIURA
BUT THEY'RE ALL SO BEAUTIFUL AND BUSTY!
So not subtle.
be
20
THE MOUNTAIN RACES HAVE VERY STRANGE BUILDS. THERE'S A GIRL WITH REALLY SMALL BREASTS.
IS THAT REALLY A GIRL?
THE CLASSROOM IS THIS WAY.
MIURA


EVERYONE IN CLASS 1 NEEDS TO GO TO THE JOINT CLASS-ROOM. DON'T FORGET--
SLISH
MIYAKO
IWOI
SWISH

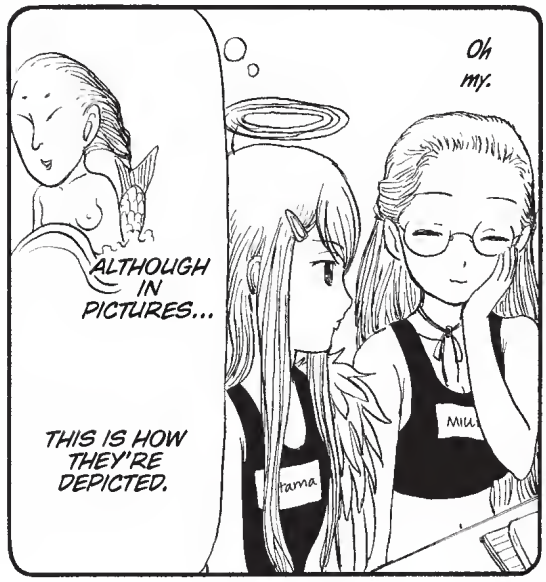
Joint Classroom
WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW MERFOLK REALLY SWIM DURING THE FREE TIME WE HAVE AFTER THIS.
ISN'T THAT BECAUSE THEY'RE SWIMMING WHILE STANDING? IF THEY SWIM LIKE NORMAL, THEIR BOOKS WOULD GET WET.
MERFOLK LOOK MORE LIKE WATER SNAKES THAN THEY DO FISH.
THAT'S RIGHT.
AND THE WATER LEVEL IS LOWER THAN NORMAL TODAY.

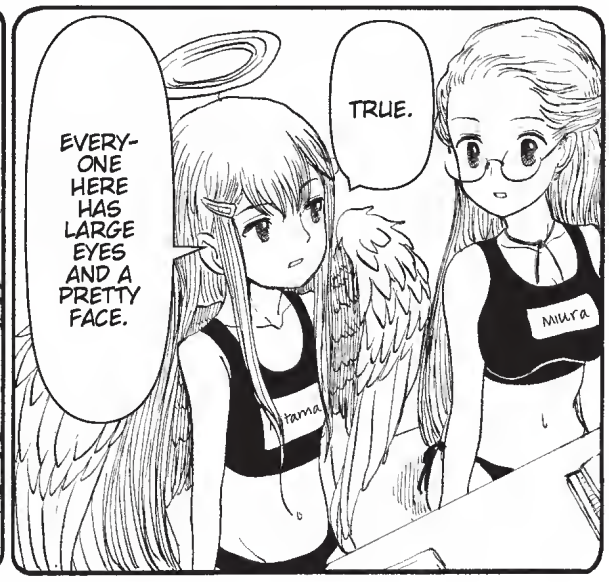

THE SEATS ARE ASSIGNED, SO PLEASE SIT ACCORDING TO THE LAYOUT ON THE BLACKBOARD.
HEY.
Naraku
HEL--
Osaki
LIKE-WISE.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
Joouna
HELLO.
HELLO.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

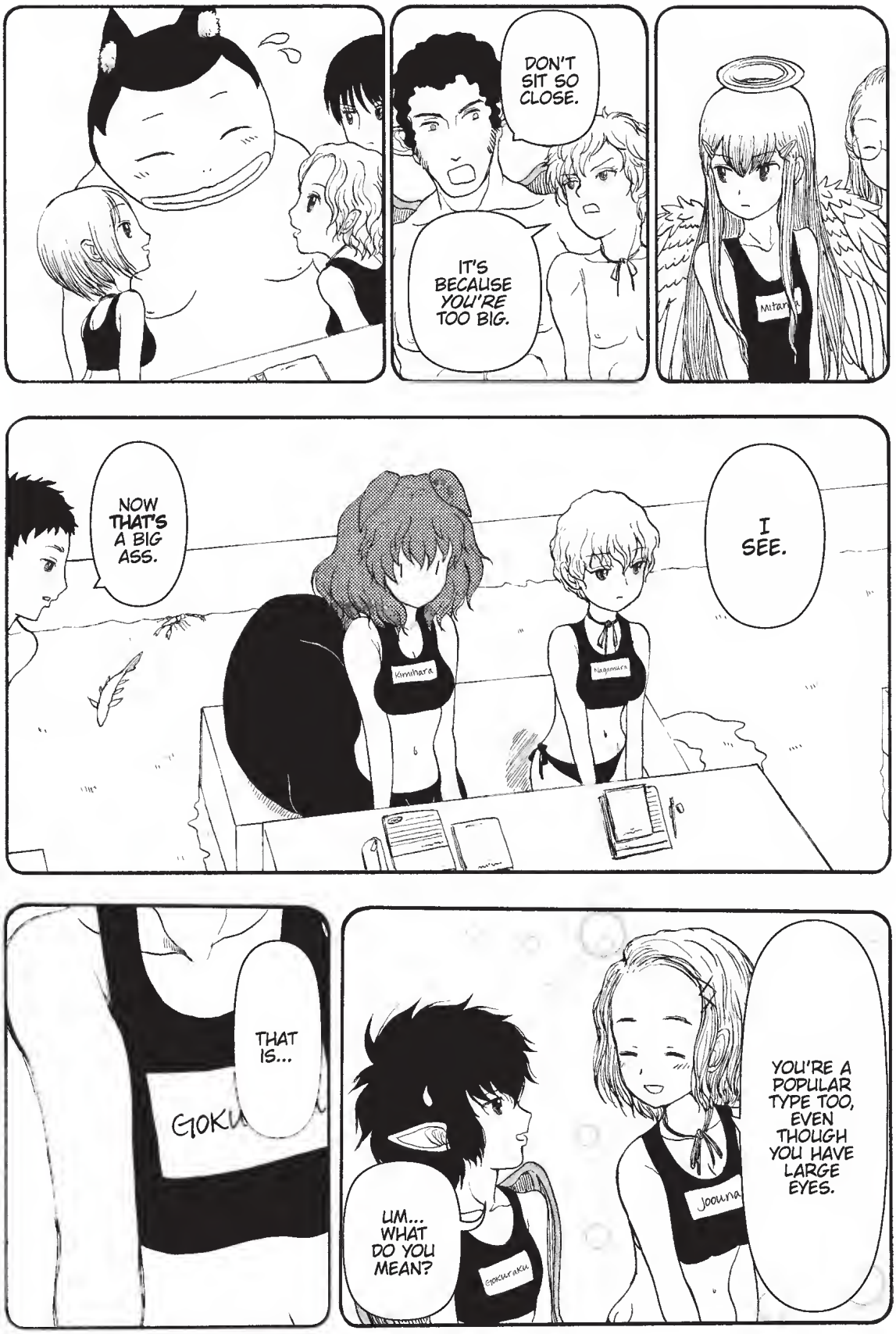

NO, YOU SHOULD COME WITH US INSTEAD.
I WAS HERE FIRST. I'LL SHOW YOU ALL AROUND THE TOWN.
YOU WANNA PLAY HOOKY WITH US AT FREE TIME?
Naraku
Osaki

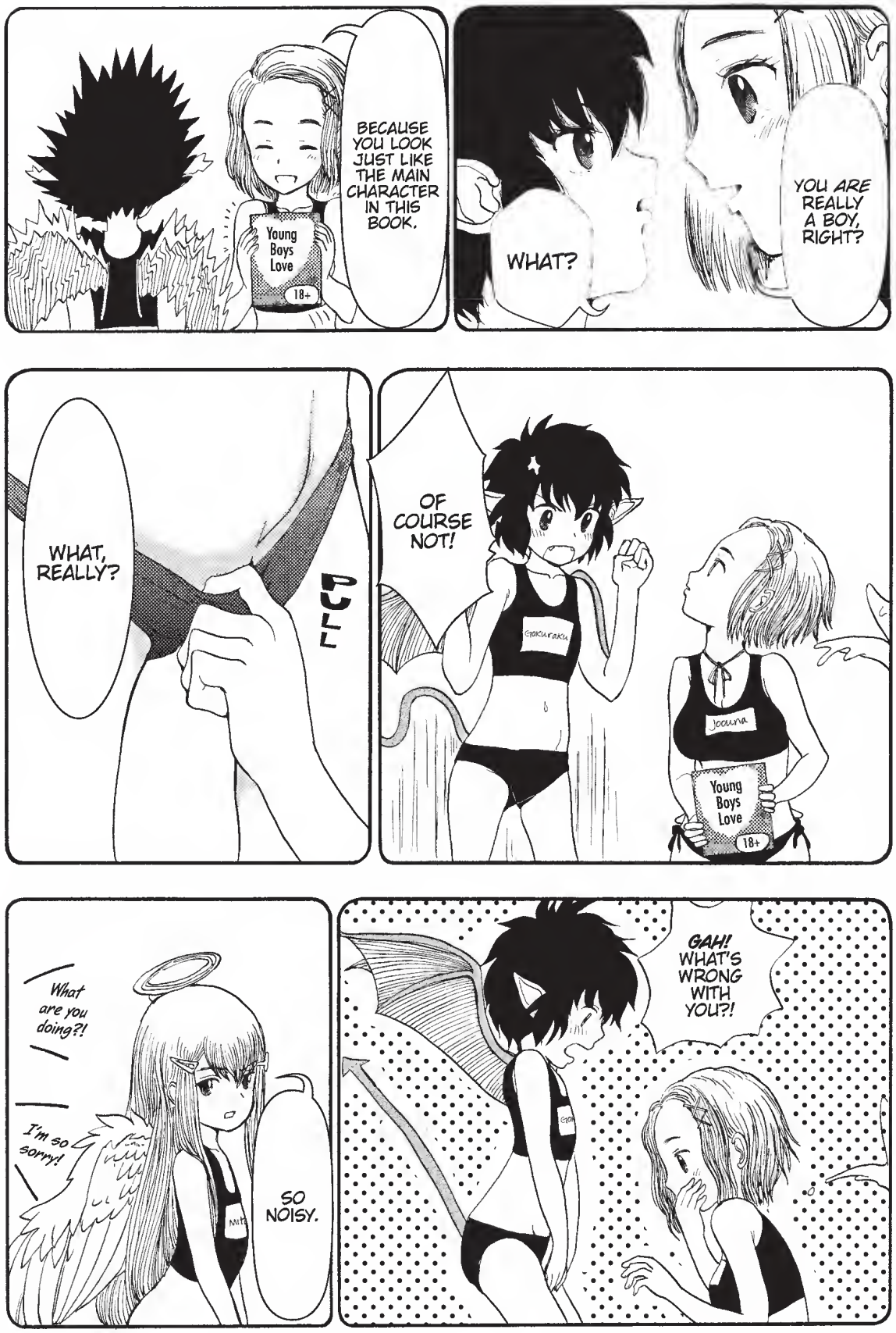

THAT'S BECAUSE HER KIND OF FACE IS RARE HERE.

I'm the one...
With me...
What?
LOOKS LIKE KYOKO IS PRETTY POPULAR.
Get back to your seat, you're obnoxious.

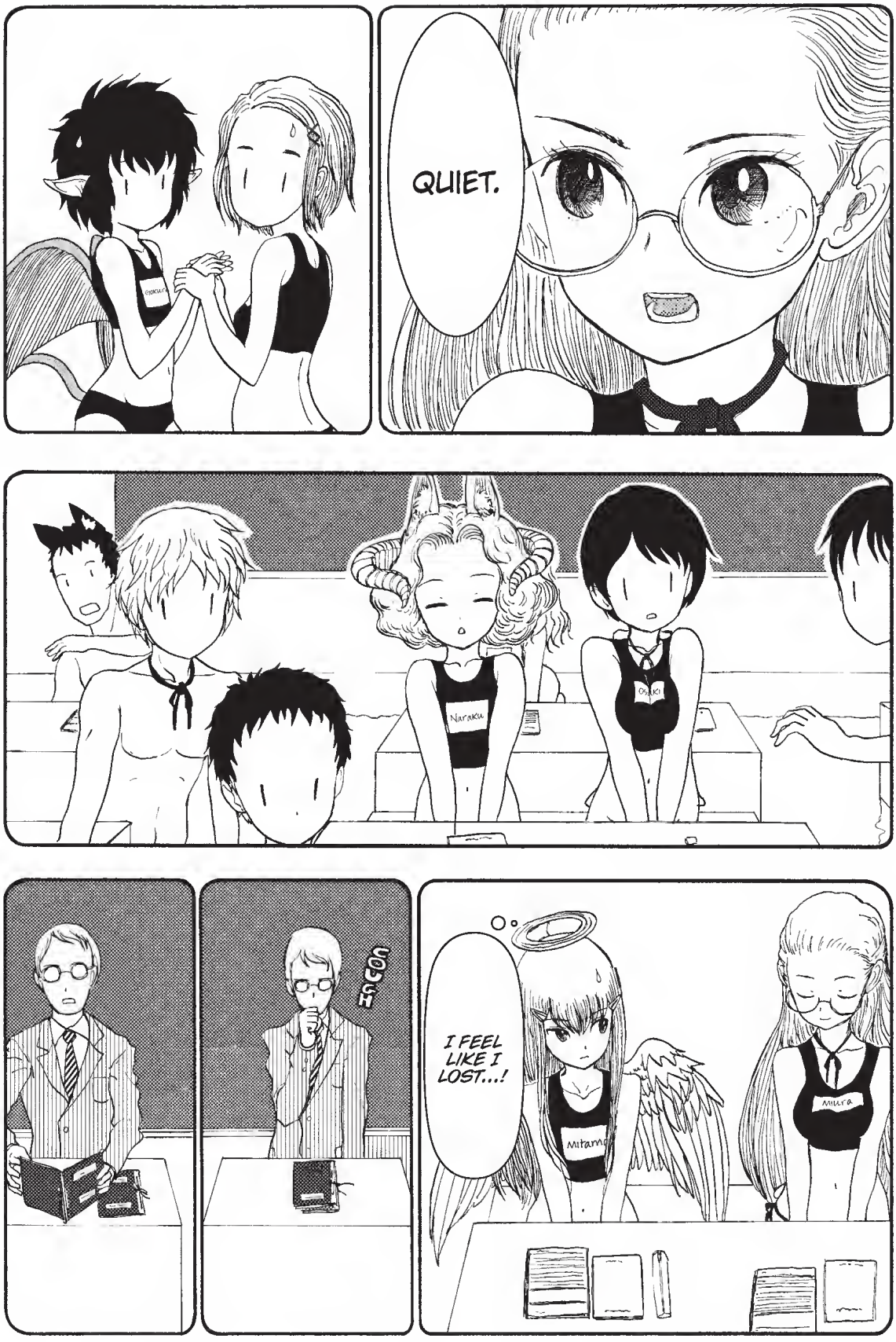

Oh my.
ALTHOUGH IN PICTURES...
THIS IS HOW THEY'RE DEPICTED.


EVERY-ONE HERE HAS LARGE EYES AND A PRETTY FACE.
TRUE.
Miura

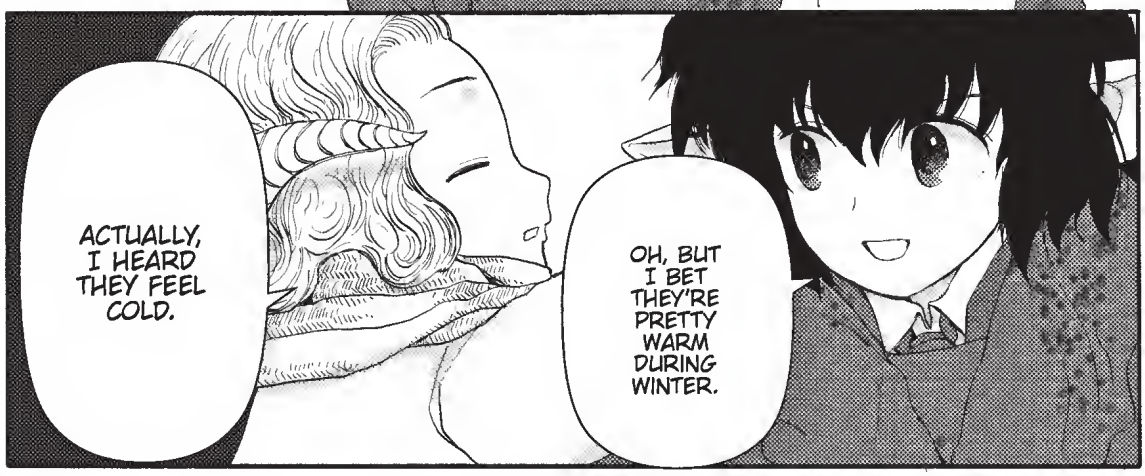

DON'T SIT SO CLOSE.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO BIG.
NOW THAT'S A BIG ASS.
I SEE.
Kimihara
Nagamura
THAT IS...
GOKU
LIM... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU'RE A POPULAR TYPE TOO, EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE LARGE EYES.
Joouna
Sakurako

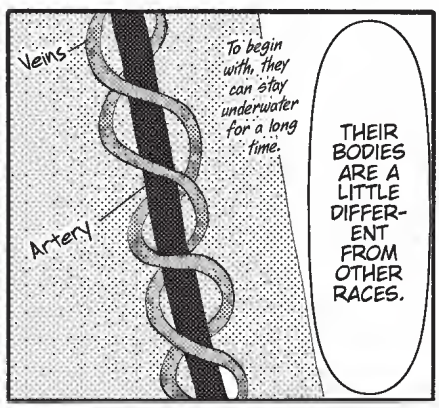

BECAUSE YOU LOOK JUST LIKE THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THIS BOOK.
Young Boys Love
18+
WHAT?
YOU ARE REALLY A BOY, RIGHT?
WHAT, REALLY?
PULL
OF COURSE NOT!
GOKURAKU
Joouna
Young Boys Love
18+
What are you doing?!
I'm so sorry!
SO NOISY.
GAH! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!

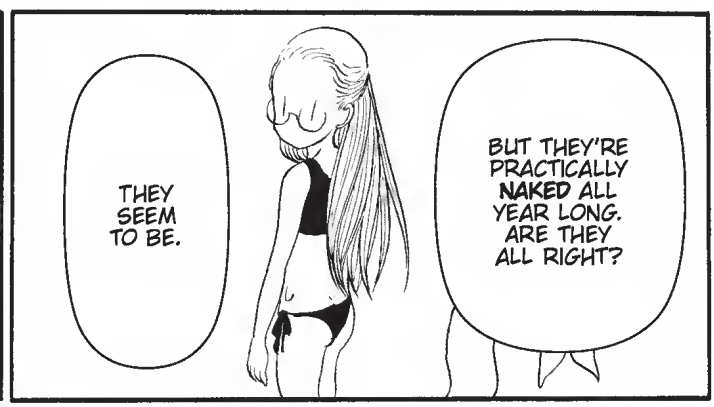
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHIT
CHAT
NOW, LET'S BEGIN CLASS.
SETTLE DOWN!
SPLASH

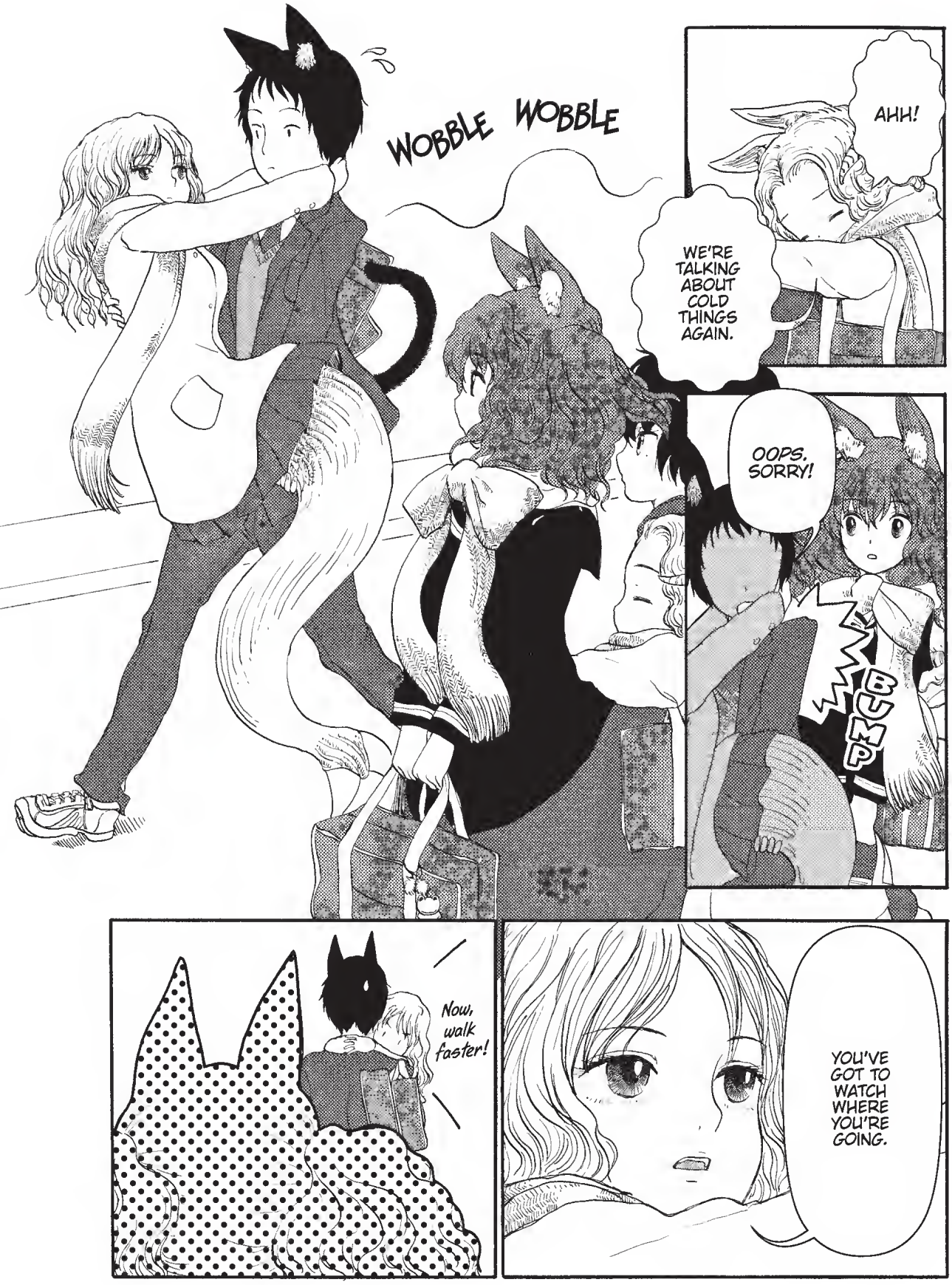

QUIET.
Naraku
Okiku
AHEM
I FEEL LIKE I LOST...!
Mitama
Amura

Are you okay?
THAT HEAT WAS AMAZING.
BUT AFTER THAT, YOU ALMOST HAD HEAT STROKE.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
IT'S RARE THAT YOU'RE POPULAR, KYOKO.
And you were popular too, Nozomi-chan.
IS THAT A GOOD MEMORY?


ACTUALLY, I HEARD THEY FEEL COLD.
OH, BUT I BET THEY'RE PRETTY WARM DURING WINTER.

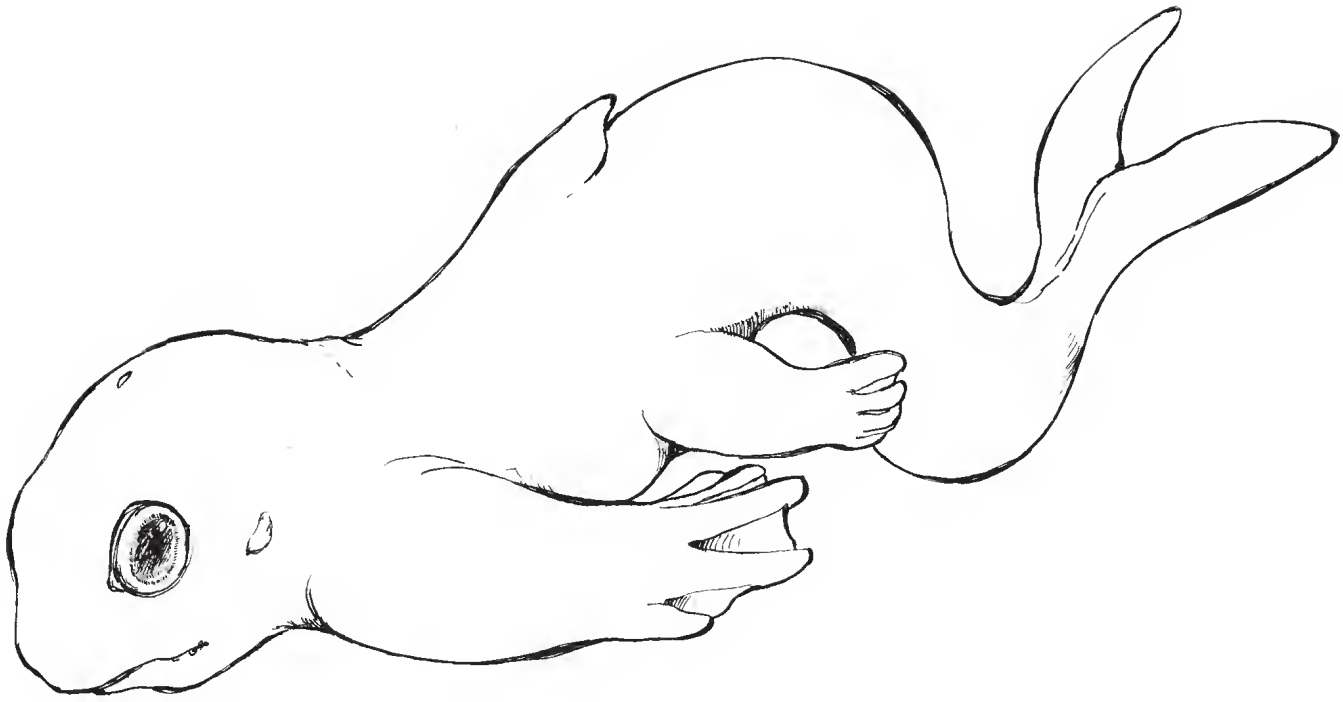

Veins
Artery
To begin with, they can stay underwater for a long time.
THEIR BODIES ARE A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER RACES.


THEY SEEM TO BE.
BUT THEY'RE PRACTICALLY NAKED ALL YEAR LONG. ARE THEY ALL RIGHT?


WOBBLE WOBBLE
AHH!
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT COLD THINGS AGAIN.
OOPS, SORRY!
BUMP
Now, walk faster!
YOU'VE GOT TO WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING.

I HAVE A PRETTY HOT AND STUFFY IMAGE OF MERMAIDS AFTER ALL.
BUT BEING CARRIED LIKE A PRIN-CESS...
I KIND OF ADMIRE IT.
Huff Huff
SO YOU'RE CONSIDERING DATING CONSTRUCTION CRANES?
I'M NOT THAT HEAVY~!

A CentaUr's Life



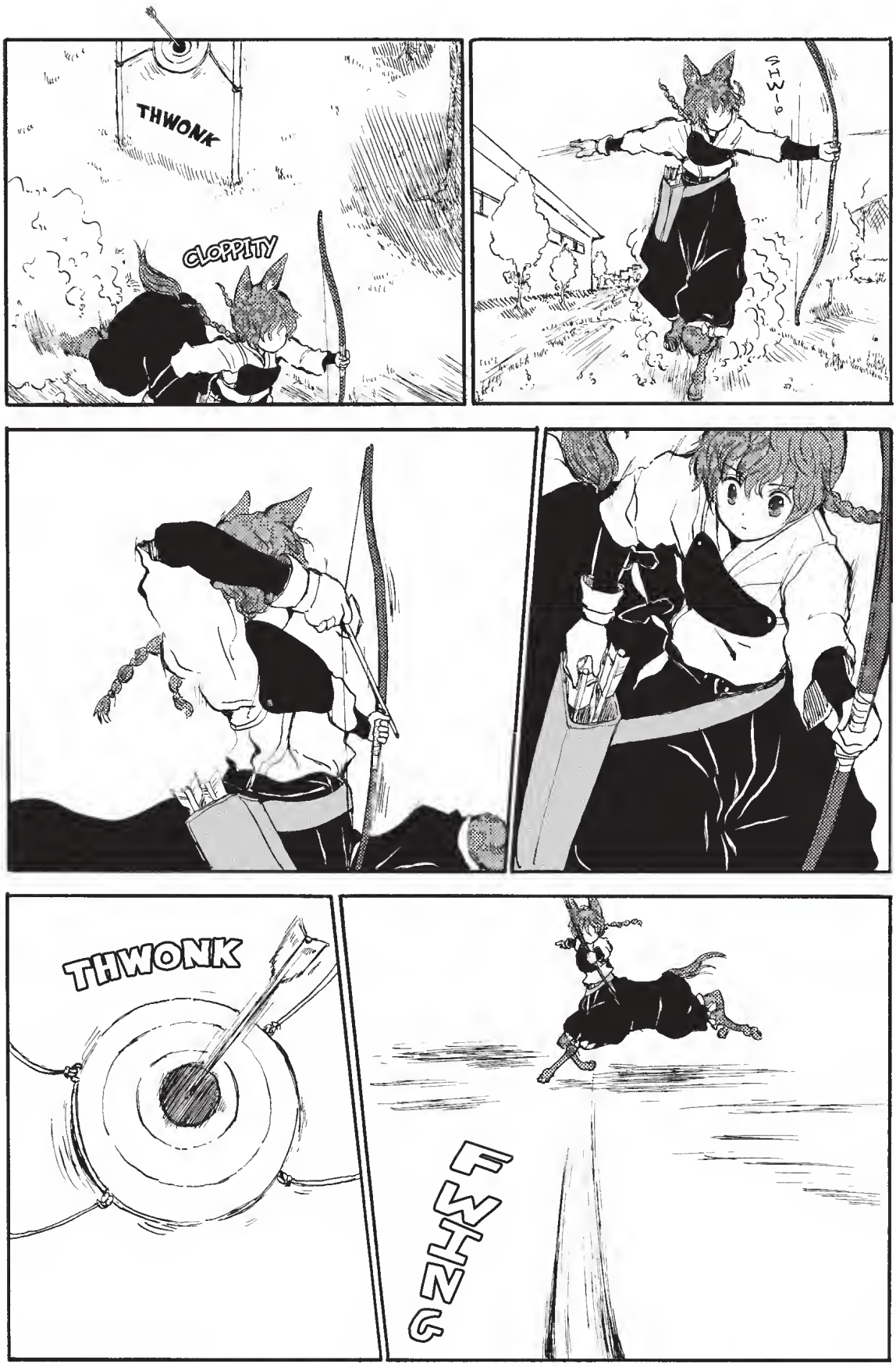
KETAPITEX

ORDER *PRIMATES*, FAMILY *HOMINIDAE*, GENUS *KETAPITEX*. EXTINCT. ONE OF THE RACES OF HUMANITY THAT RETURNED TO THE SEA.

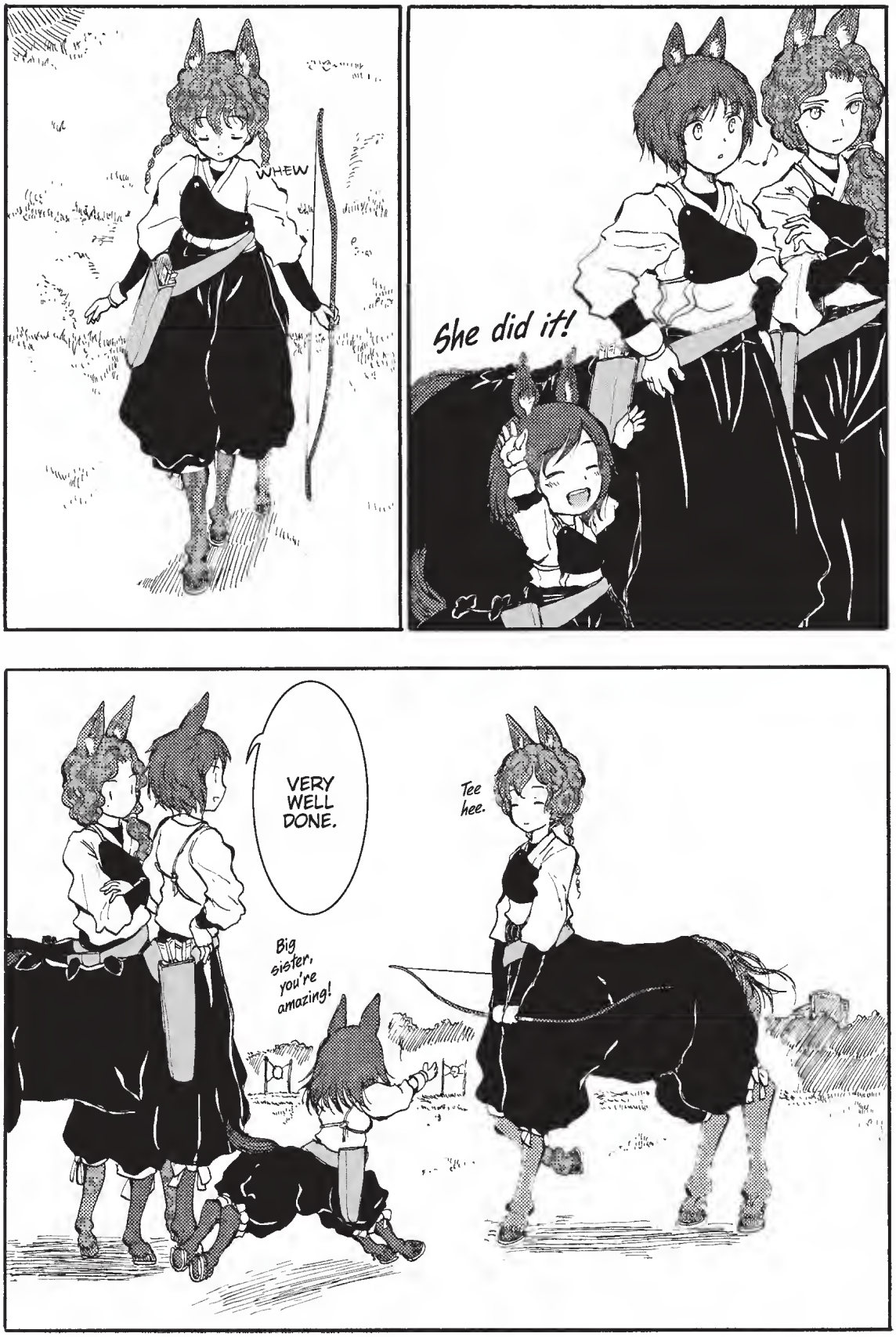
MUCH LIKE THE MERFOLK, KETAPITEX COULD LIVE THEIR ENTIRE LIVES UNDERWATER. ALTHOUGH OTHERWISE SIMILAR TO TOOTHED WHALES (ORDER *CETACEA*, SUBORDER *ODONTOCETI*), THEY COULD NOT USE ECHOLOCATION TO SURVEY THEIR SURROUNDINGS AND HAD TO RELY ON SIGHT. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS DISADVANTAGE LED TO THEIR EXTINCTION.

THE MERFOLK RACE, ON THE OTHER HAND, RETAINED THE HOMINID UPPER BODY AND WERE ABLE TO FILL A NICHE WITH NO COMPETITION FROM OTHER SEA CREATURES, ALLOWING THEM TO SURVIVE TO THE PRESENT DAY.

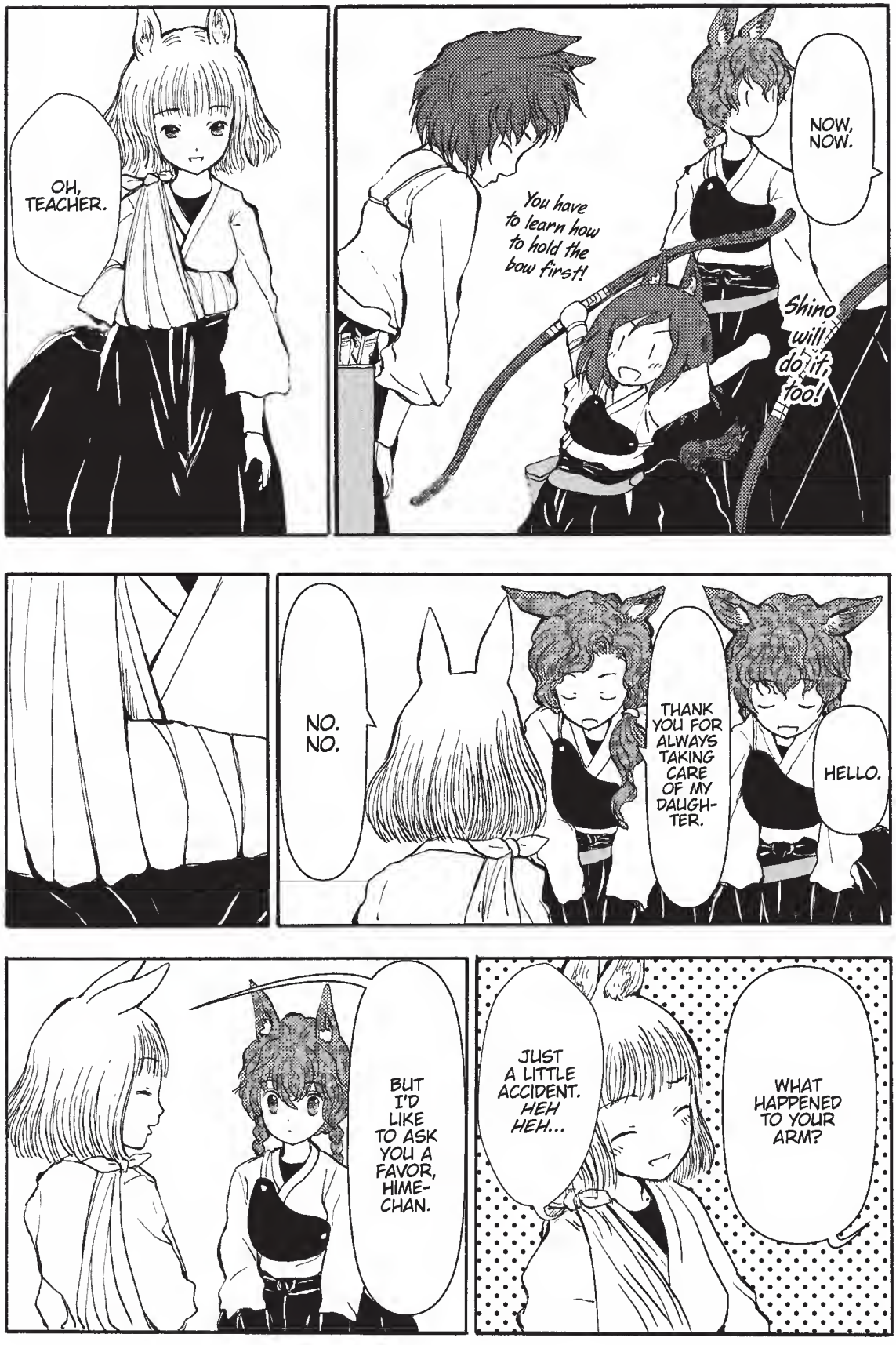
CLOPPITY
CLOPPITY
CHAPTER 8
OH HAIL, THE GREAT BODHISATTVA HACHIMAN.
I KNOW THE NAME "BODHISATTVA HACHIMAN" BUT I HAVE NEVER SEEN OR READ ANYTHING ABOUT HIM.
I WONDER IF IT HAS A SIMILAR STORY TO "AH! NOMUGI TOGE" AT ALL.
HM... I KINDA WANT TO EAT SOME MUGITORO NOW.


THWONK
CLOPPITY
SHWIP
THWONK
FWING

THWONK


WHEW
She did it!
VERY WELL DONE.
Big sister, you're amazing!
Tee hee.

THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR ME TO TEACH HER.
SORRY, SISTER-IN-LAW...
GRANDPA AND A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE ARE WATCHING ME!
TH-THAT'S BEC-AUSE ...!
THEN WHY DO YOU MISS AT THE ACTUAL EVENT?
MAYBE I SHOULD SEND YOU TO A ZEN TEMPLE.
FOCUS SO COMPLETELY THAT YOU FORGET ABOUT BEING NERVOUS!
IF I FOCUS, I GET EVEN MORE NERVOUS!
FOCUS ON YOUR ACTIONS. FOCUS.


OH, TEACHER.
NOW, NOW.
You have to learn how to hold the bow first!
Shino will do it, too!
NO. NO.
THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS TAKING CARE OF MY DAUGHTER.
HELLO.
BUT I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU A FAVOR, HIME-CHAN.
JUST A LITTLE ACCIDENT. HEH HEH...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR ARM?

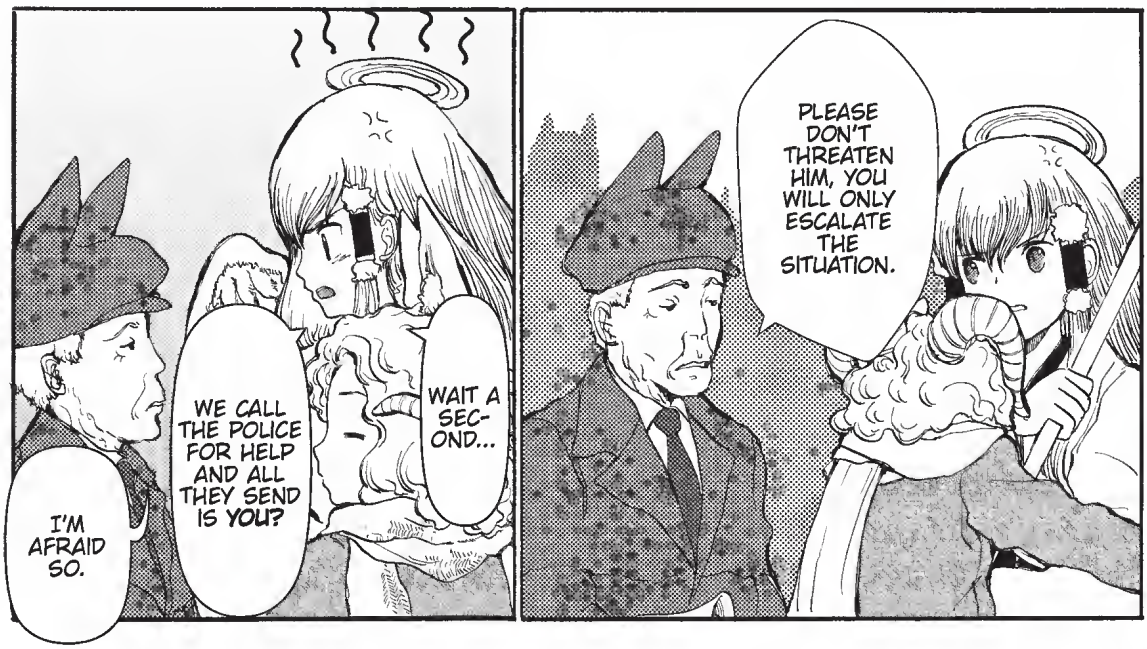
RIGHT THIS WAY TO THE SHRINE OFFICE.

DURING THE NEW YEAR'S FESTIVAL AT OUR SHRINE, YOUR TEACHER DOES A DEMONSTRATION OF THE CEREMONIAL ARCHERY FOR US.
UM...
I'LL SAY THIS DIRECTLY.
M-ME?!
SO I WANT YOU TO DO IT INSTEAD, KIMIHARA-SAN.
BUT... I'M LIKE THIS RIGHT NOW.
That's why we do it.
OF COURSE.
BUT... A LOT OF PEOPLE COME TO THAT EVENT, RIGHT?

ABOUT THAT.
THEN, MY MOM...
OR MY AUNT?
THIS IS AN EVENT AT A SHRINE.
TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, THE CEREMONY MUST BE PERFORMED BY A VIRGIN.
Excitement
I BELIEVE YOU'RE PERFECT FOR THE PART, HIME-CHAN.
LET ME JUST MAKE SURE.
EEK!
WOMPH
Guh!
IT'S REALLY JUST TRADI-TIONAL NOW, BUT...
HAVING A MARRIED PERSON DO IT LOOKS REALLY BAD.

I'LL LET YOU USE OUR TRAINING GROUND FOR A YEAR, NO CHARGE!
You'll be able to train thoroughly.
That's an awfully nice, yet troublesome reward...
OF COURSE, WE WON'T ASK YOU TO DO IT FOR FREE.
YANK
TO BE EXACT, THIS MUCH.
OF COURSE, THE SHRINE WILL COMPEN-SATE YOU AS WELL.
Hmm.
Oh, it's the big-big sister--!
We're home!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

BRING ME AN UNMARKED CAR WITHIN FIVE MINUTES!
Waaah!
IF YOU VALUE THIS KID'S LIFE...
SHE IS PART OF OUR FAMILY! IF YOU DON'T LET HER GO, I'LL KILL YOU!
SHUT UP! YOU WANT ME TO CUT HER PRETTY LITTLE FACE?!


PLEASE DON'T THREATEN HIM, YOU WILL ONLY ESCALATE THE SITUATION.
WAIT A SEC-OND...
WE CALL THE POLICE FOR HELP AND ALL THEY SEND IS YOU?
I'M AFRAID SO.

THEY WILL COME AS SOON AS THEY CAN, BUT...
THEN WHAT ABOUT SNIPERS? OR A SWAT TEAM? ANY-THING?!
IT'S A VERY BIG PROBLEM USING LOTS OF MANPOWER.
ike Bank
BANG
BANG
BANG
THERE'S CURRENTLY A BANK ROBBERY SITUATION IN THE CITY.
SHE STAYS WITH ME UNTIL I GET THE CAR!
WE ARE WORKING ON YOUR CAR, BUT YOU MUST LET THE CHILD GO.
I'M TRYING TO BUY US SOME TIME, YOUNG LADY.
THAT'S WHY I'M HERE WITH THIS.
IT WOULDN'T BE A SAFE SHOT FOR A HANDGUN AT THIS RANGE.
DON'T YOU HAVE A GUN?! SHOOT HIM!
AHH! SUE-CHAN!
I'LL CUT THIS KID ONCE EVERY MINUTE UNTIL IT'S HERE!
SOB SNIFF
THREE MORE MINUTES. IF THERE'S NO CAR BY THEN...

FATHER ISN'T HOME... IT'S UP TO ME!
WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
COME WITH ME.
Think of the pain you are causing your parents!
Nice try, but my folks have been dead for a long time!
STARE
YOU HAVE TO SHOOT HIM.
WHAT?!

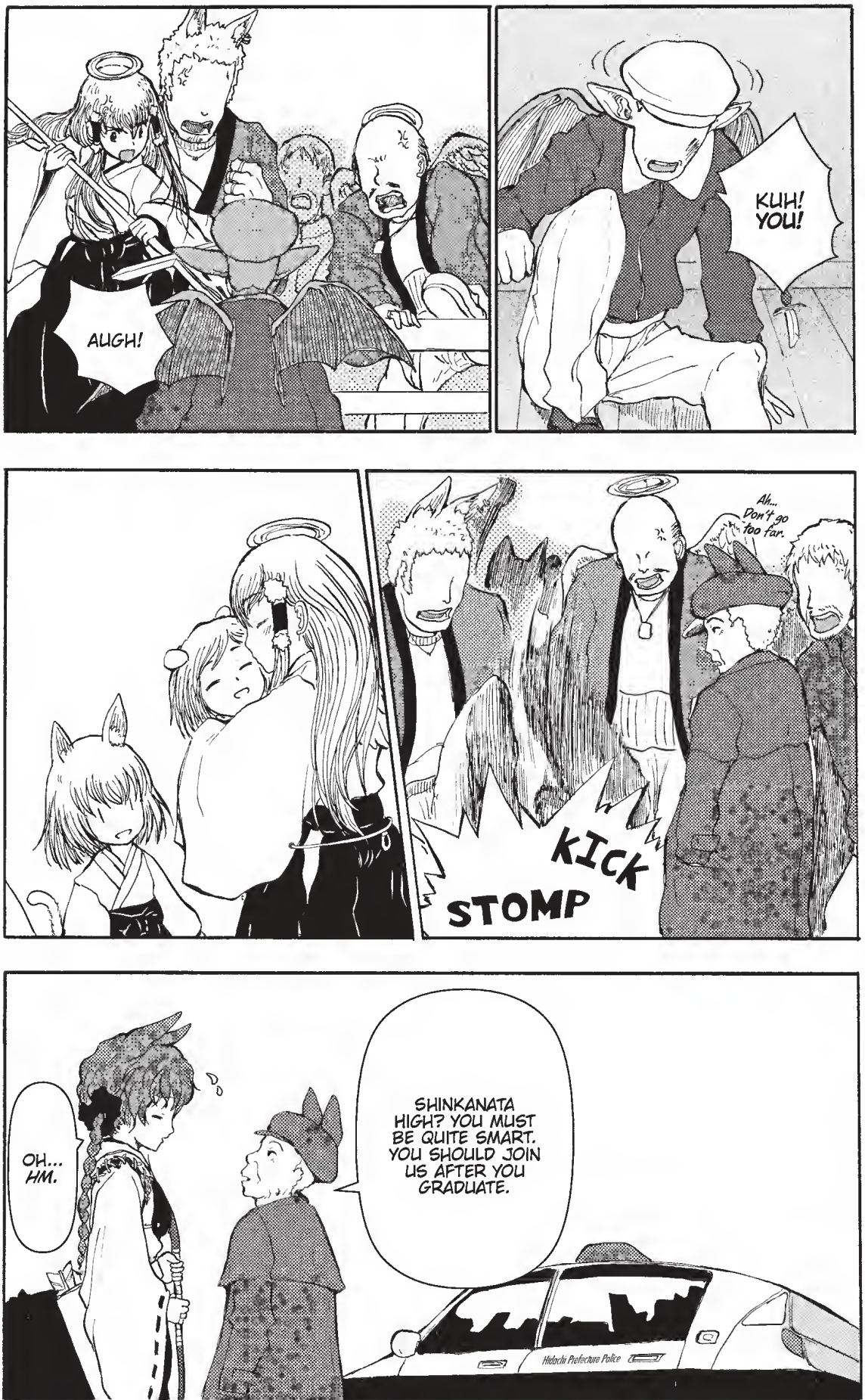
HOLD ON A SEC!
AT THE VERY LEAST, MY MOM OR AUNT WILL BE HERE SOON, THEN...
THERE'S NO TIME! PLEASE, YOU MUST DO IT!
BUT YOU ABSOLUTELY MUST NOT HURT MY LITTLE SISTER!
EASY... IF YOU PUT ON THAT KIND OF PRESSURE, IT'LL JUST MAKE IT HARDER.
I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT! YOU'RE A CAPABLE GIRL!
BUT IF YOU FAIL, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
Hey, time's up!
We just got it ready!
No pressure...
I'M DEPENDING ON YOU!

AH, NO! STOP IT! PLEASE STOP!
THAT BASTARD. LOOKS LIKE HE'S ALREADY CUT HER LIKE HE SAID.
THIS IS GETTING SERIOUS. IF WE DON'T STOP HIM QUICKLY...
IT'S A RECKLESS THING TO DO.
BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT, FOCUS.
I JUST DON'T KNOW...

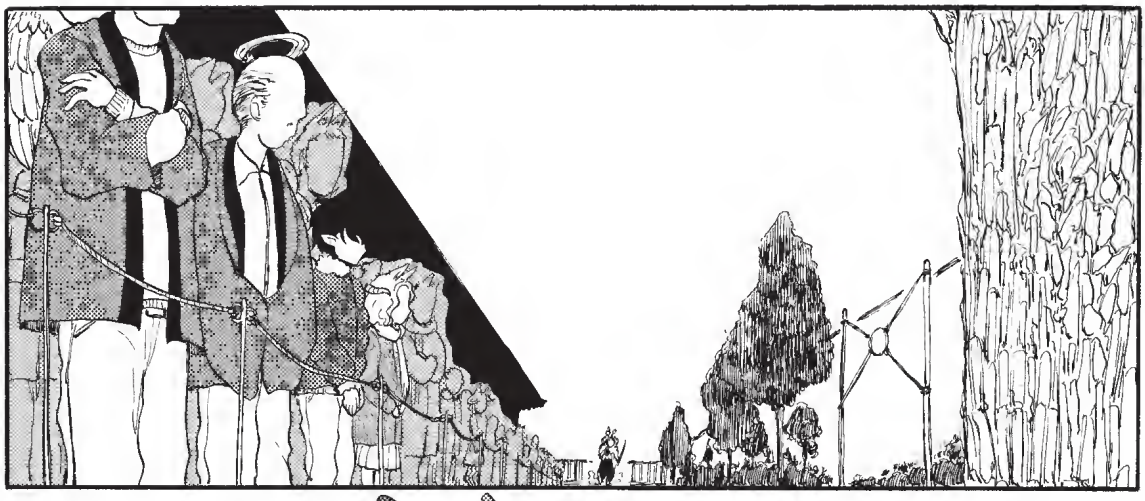
Keep your eye on the target.
HIME.
ONE MORE THING.
I CAN'T HELP THINKING ABOUT IT.
EVEN IF YOU MISS, DON'T FREEZE. JUST DO WHATEVER COMES TO YOU IN THE MOMENT.
PULL
REMEMBER THAT EVEN IF YOU MISS, IT'S NOT OVER. THIS ISN'T A ONE-SHOT TARGET.
Another minute, another cut... where to cut next?
No! Stop this now!!
DASH

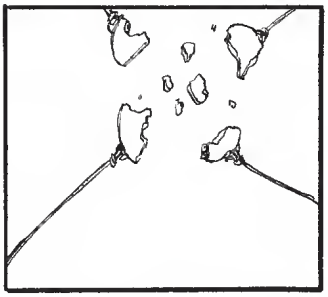
CHARGE
FWIP
WHAT THE --?!
WHOA!
I missed..!
Hime!
WAAAAAH!

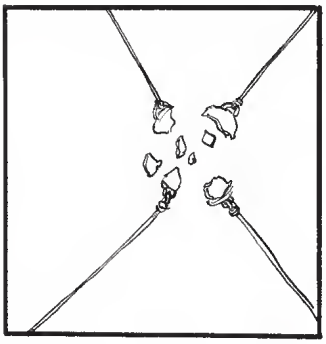
CLOBBER
GWAAH!
SMASH
ガッシ
CATCH
CLUNK
SNAP


AUGH!
KUH! YOU!
Ah... Don't go too far.
KICK
STOMP
OH... HM.
SHINKANATA HIGH? YOU MUST BE QUITE SMART. YOU SHOULD JOIN US AFTER YOU GRADUATE.
Hibachi Prefecture Police

BRING YOUR FACE THIS WAY.
BIG-BIG SISTER!
KISS
WH-WHAT?!
I-I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
Chu.
A KISS FROM SUE-CHAN, TOO.







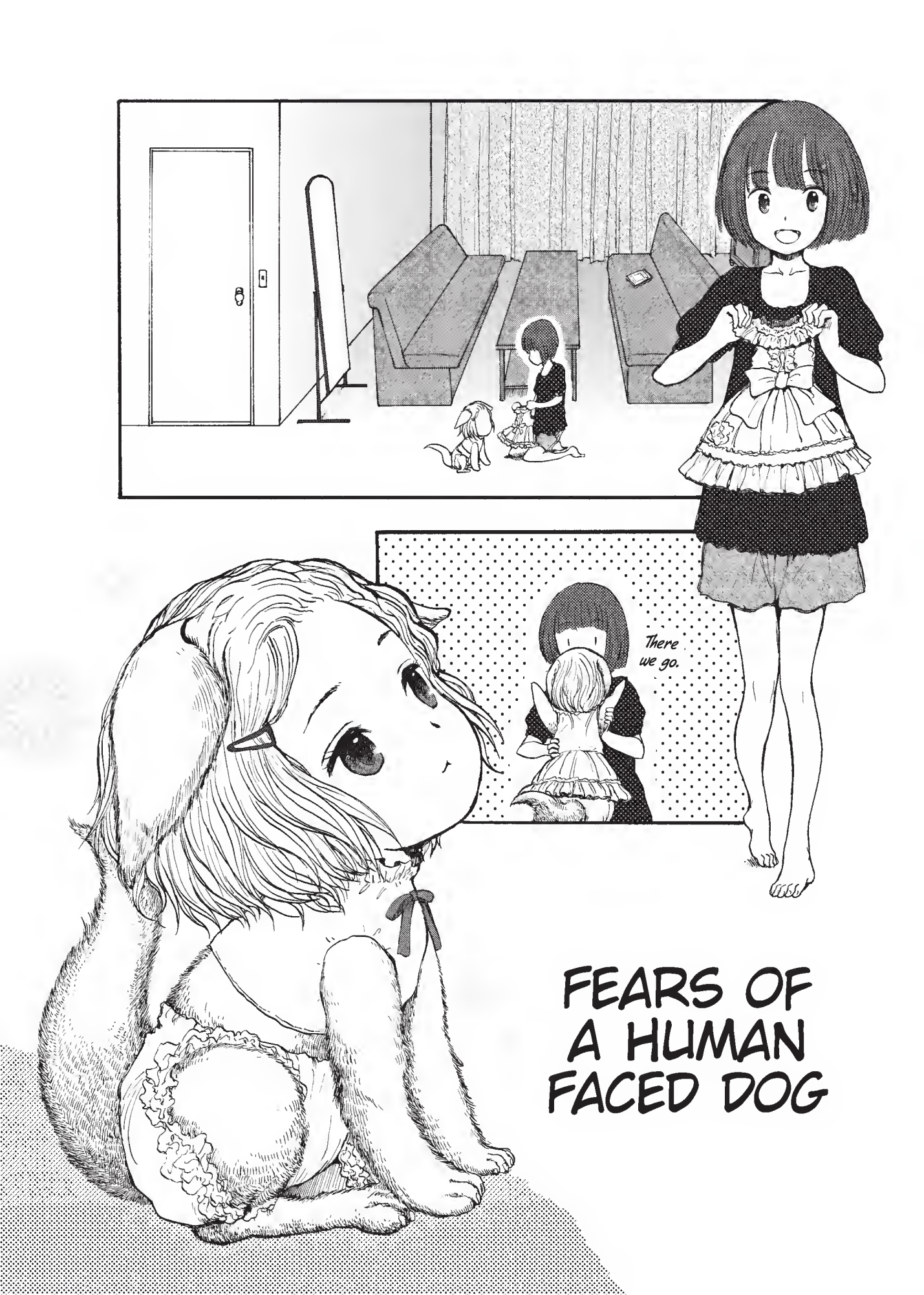
DID YOU SEE, GRAMPS? AS EXPECTED FROM MY GIRL, RIGHT?
YOU MEAN AS EXPECTED FROM MY GRAND-DAUGHTER.
Cheer
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Whew.
CLAP
CLAP
Big sister is amazing!
LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE THIS TIME.
YES. I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT DINNER.
It's nice that no one's life depends on this.

A CentaUr's Life

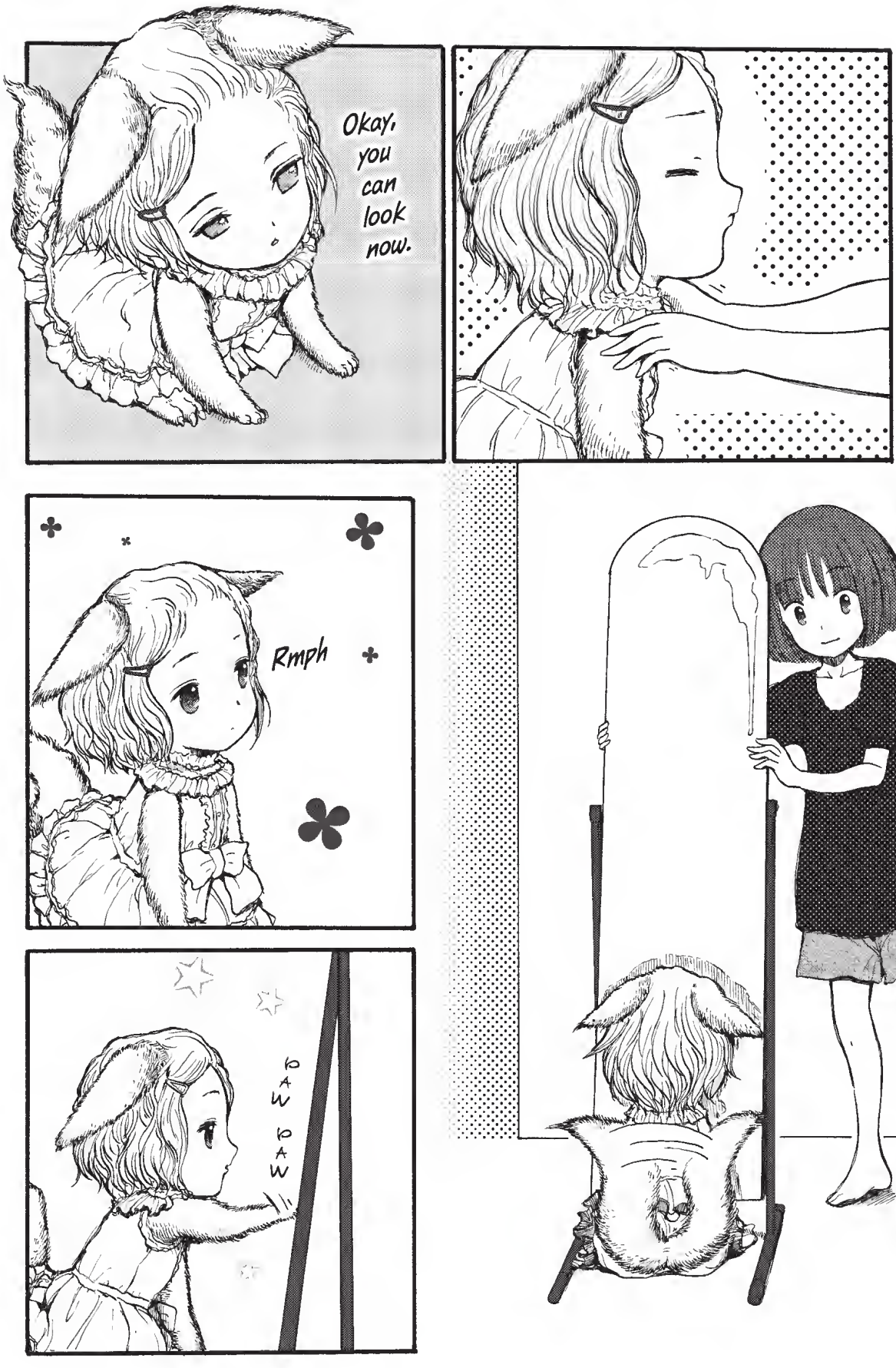
WERETIGER

ORDER *PRIMATES*, FAMILY *HOMINIDAE*, GENUS *HOMO*. CONSIDERED A RACE OF HUMANITY (*HOMO SAPIENS TIGRIS*) AND BELIEVED TO HAVE GONE EXTINCT ABOUT 10,000 YEARS AGO. THE STORIES PASSED DOWN BY ASIAN FOLKLORE, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT SOME PEOPLE BELIEVE THEY HAVE ONLY RECENTLY GONE EXTINCT OR EVEN THAT A FEW CONTINUE TO LIVE TO THIS DAY. THERE ARE MANY STORIES OF SIGHTINGS, BUT NONE WITH VERIFIABLE EVIDENCE.

AS THEIR FOSSILIZED REMAINS ARE OFTEN EXCAVATED WITH HAIRS FROM A LEATHER BAG AND NETS MADE OF PLANT MATTER, IT IS BELIEVED THEY USED THROWING NETS FOR HUNTING. THEIR REASON FOR EXTINCTION (OR DETERIORATION) IS UNKNOWN. HOWEVER, AFTER EXAMINATION OF CENTAURS AS THE ONLY SURVIVING FOUR-LEGGED HOMINID SPECIES, IT IS STRONGLY BELIEVED THAT THEIR DEMISE WAS BROUGHT ON BY THEIR EXTREMELY STRONG HUNTING SKILLS AND THEIR DEPENDENCY ON A CARNIVOROUS DIET.

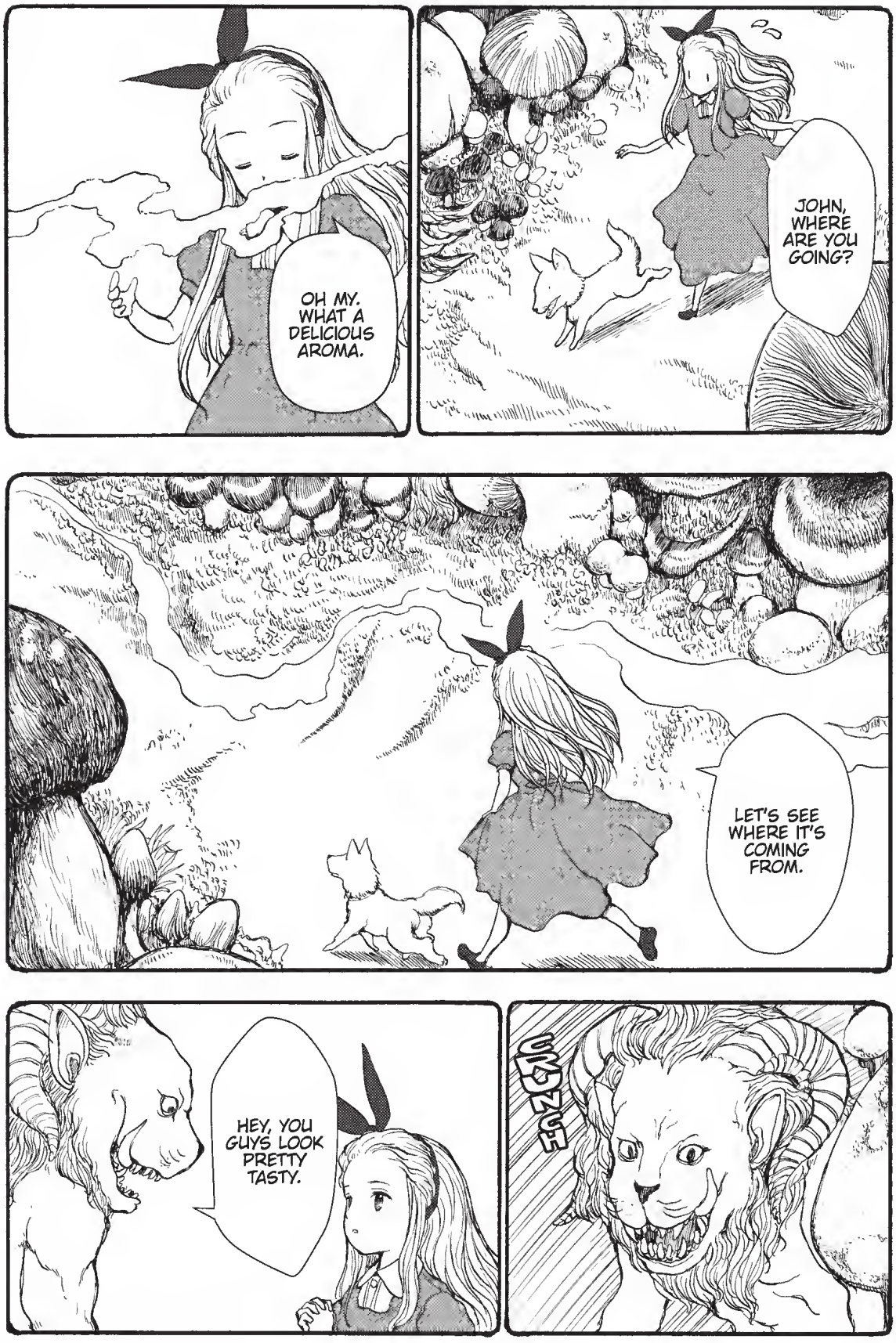


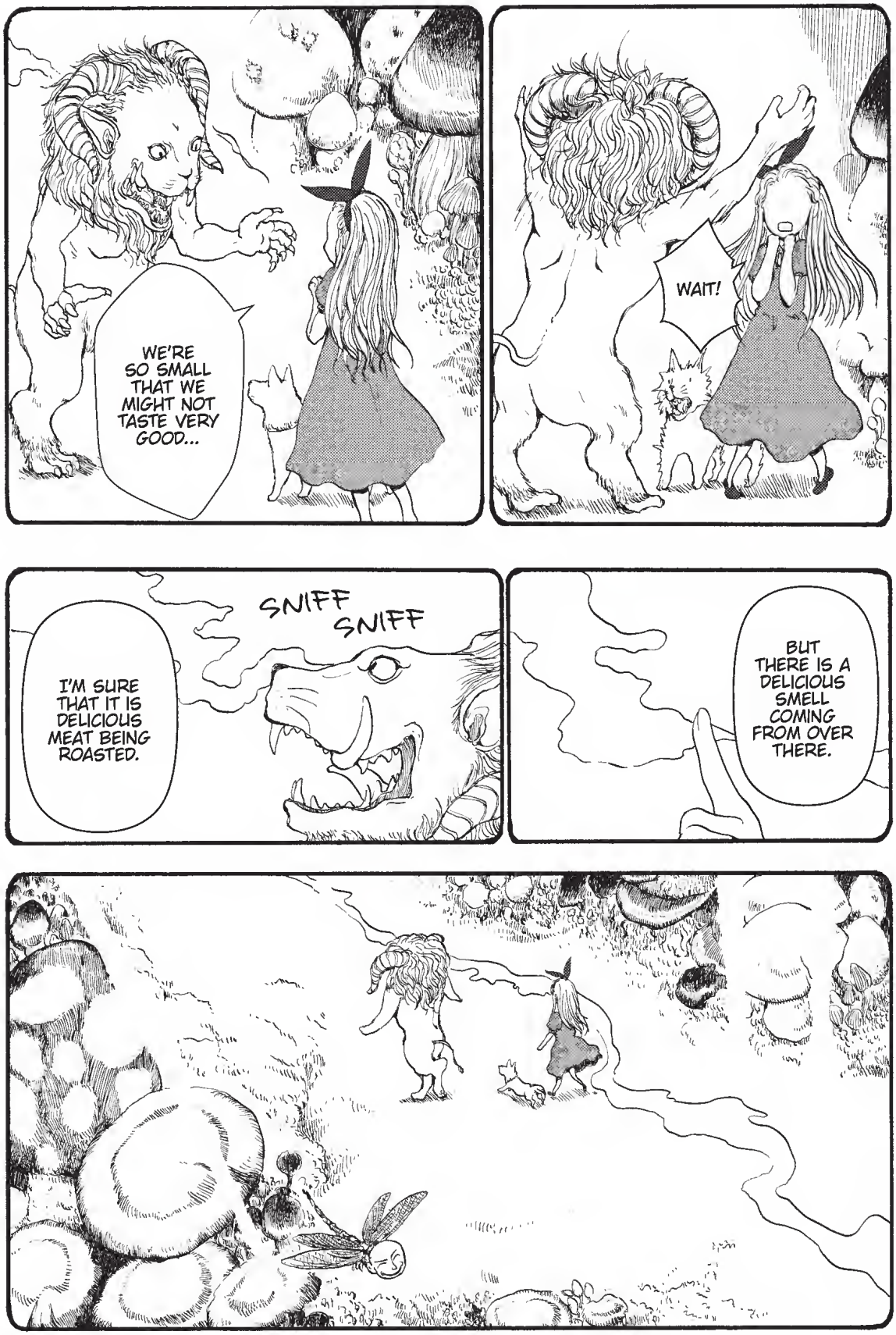
FEARS OF A HUMAN FACED DOG

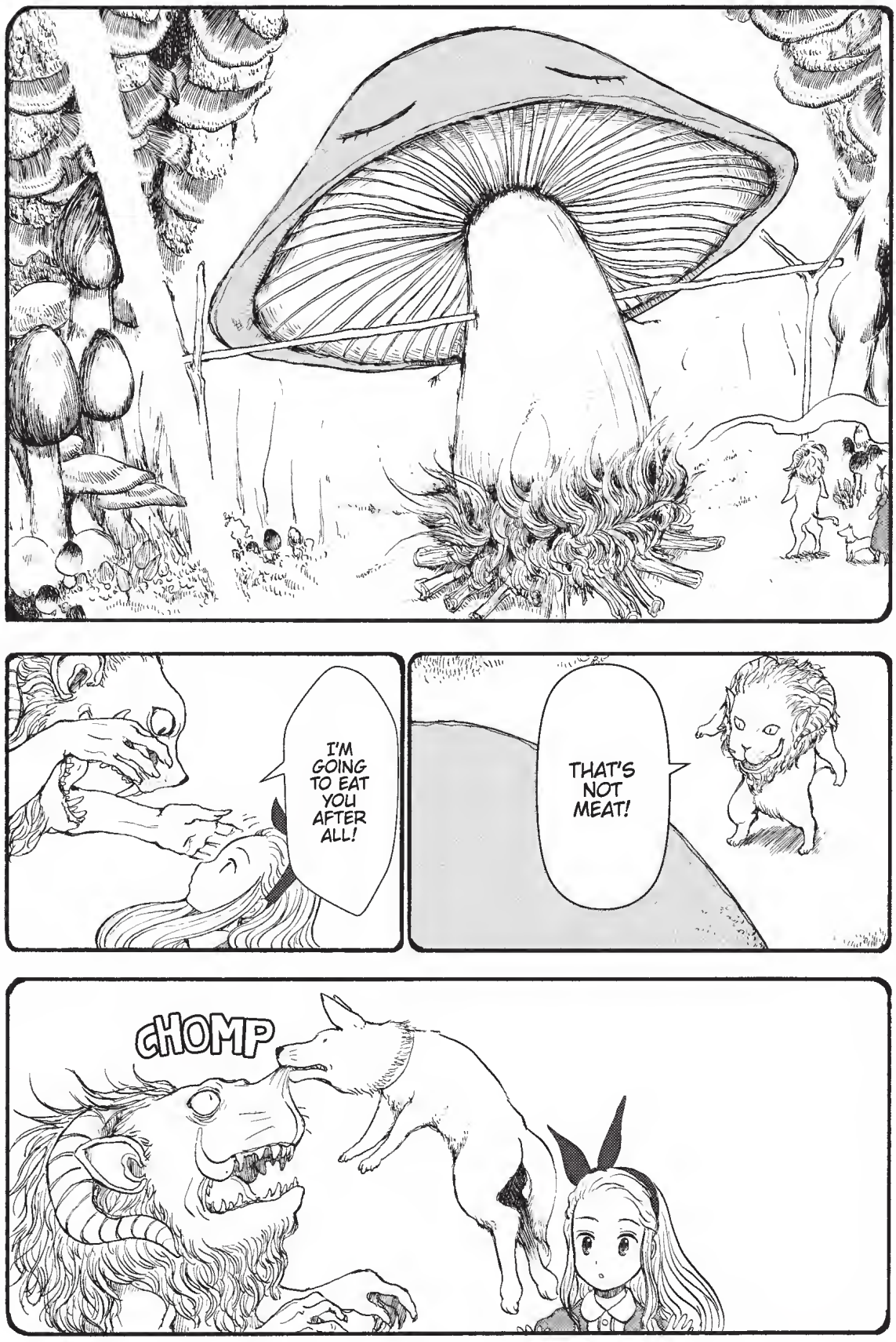

Okay, you can look now.
Rmph
KAW KAW

Armph!
Armph!
World Classics Collection
NUZZLE
NUZZLE
World Classics Collection
The Dog in Wonderland
World Classics Collec
The Dog in
Wonderlan

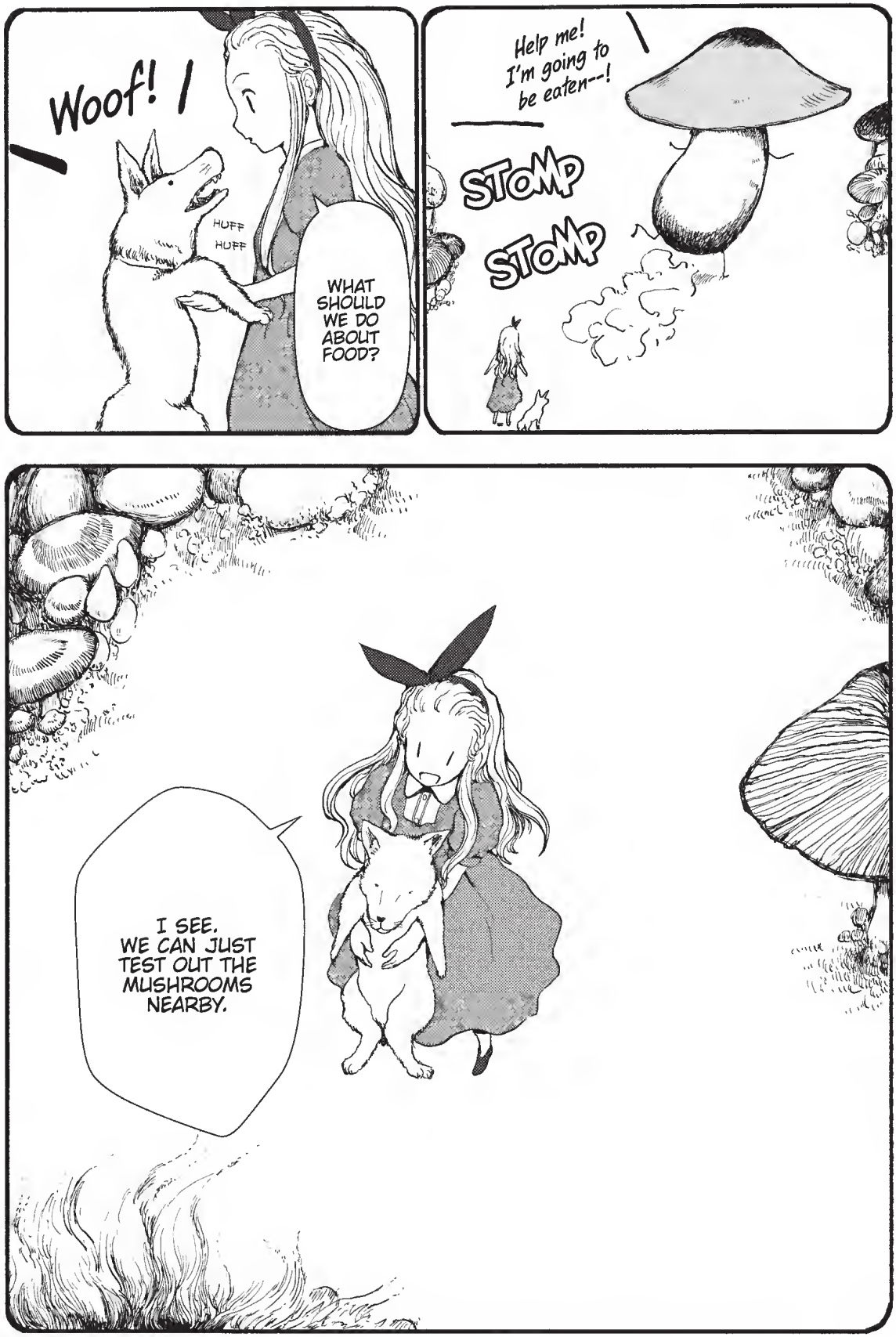
World Classics Collection
The Dog in Wonderland
WHERE ARE WE?

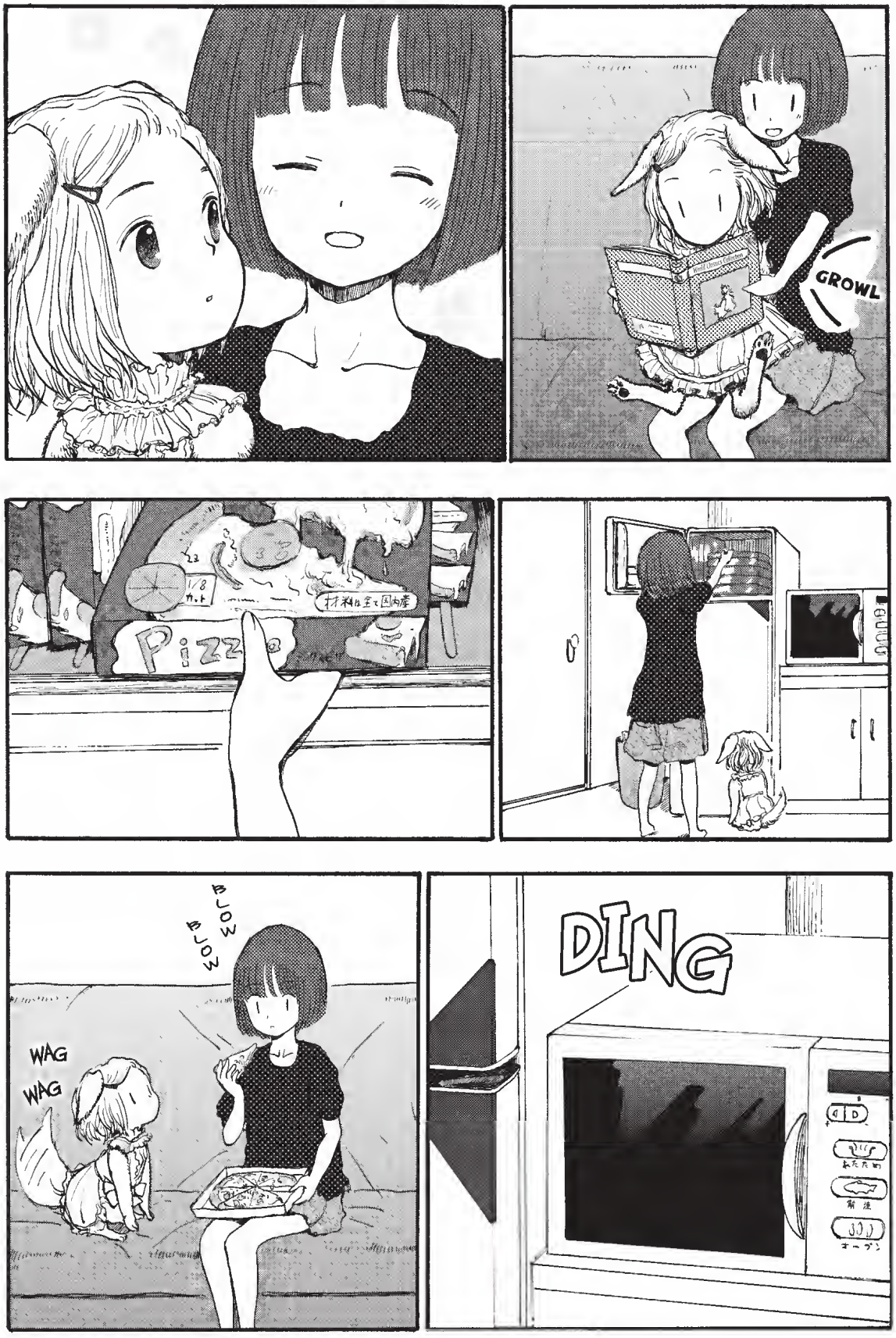

OH MY. WHAT A DELICIOUS AROMA.
JOHN, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
LET'S SEE WHERE IT'S COMING FROM.
HEY, YOU GUYS LOOK PRETTY TASTY.
CHOMP

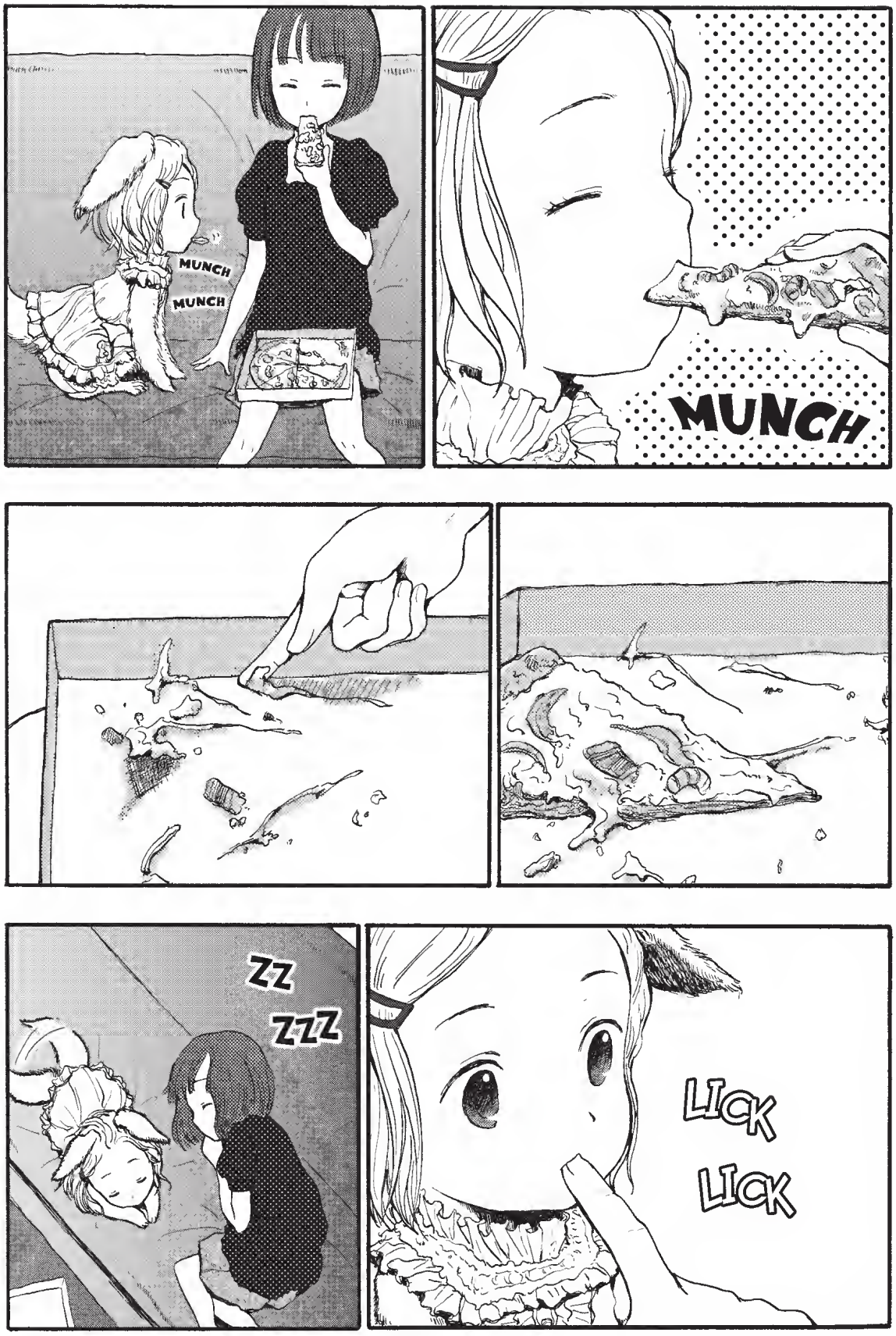

WE'RE SO SMALL THAT WE MIGHT NOT TASTE VERY GOOD...
WAIT!
SNIFF SNIFF
I'M SURE THAT IT IS DELICIOUS MEAT BEING ROASTED.
BUT THERE IS A DELICIOUS SMELL COMING FROM OVER THERE.

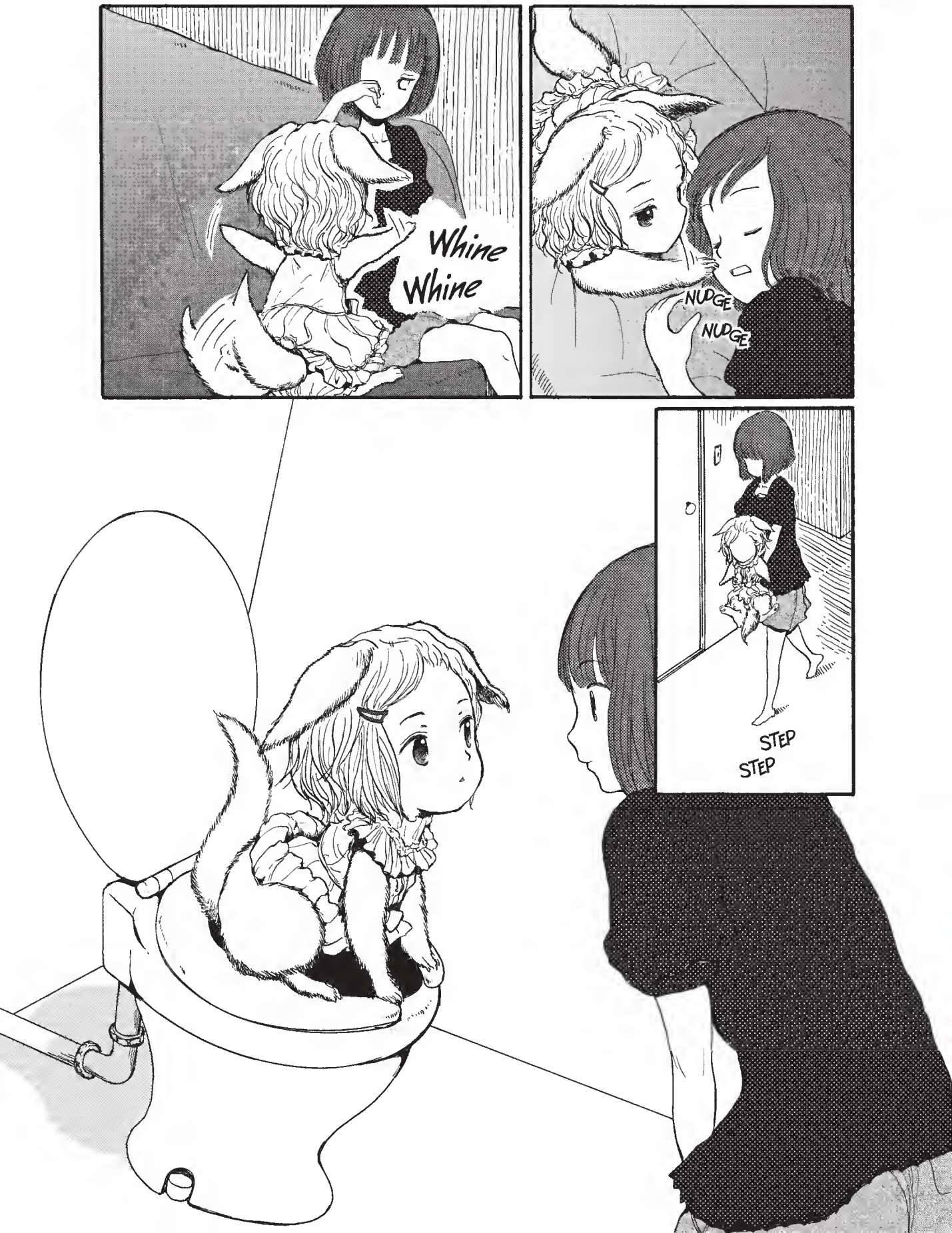

I'M GOING TO EAT YOU AFTER ALL!
THAT'S NOT MEAT!
CHOMP

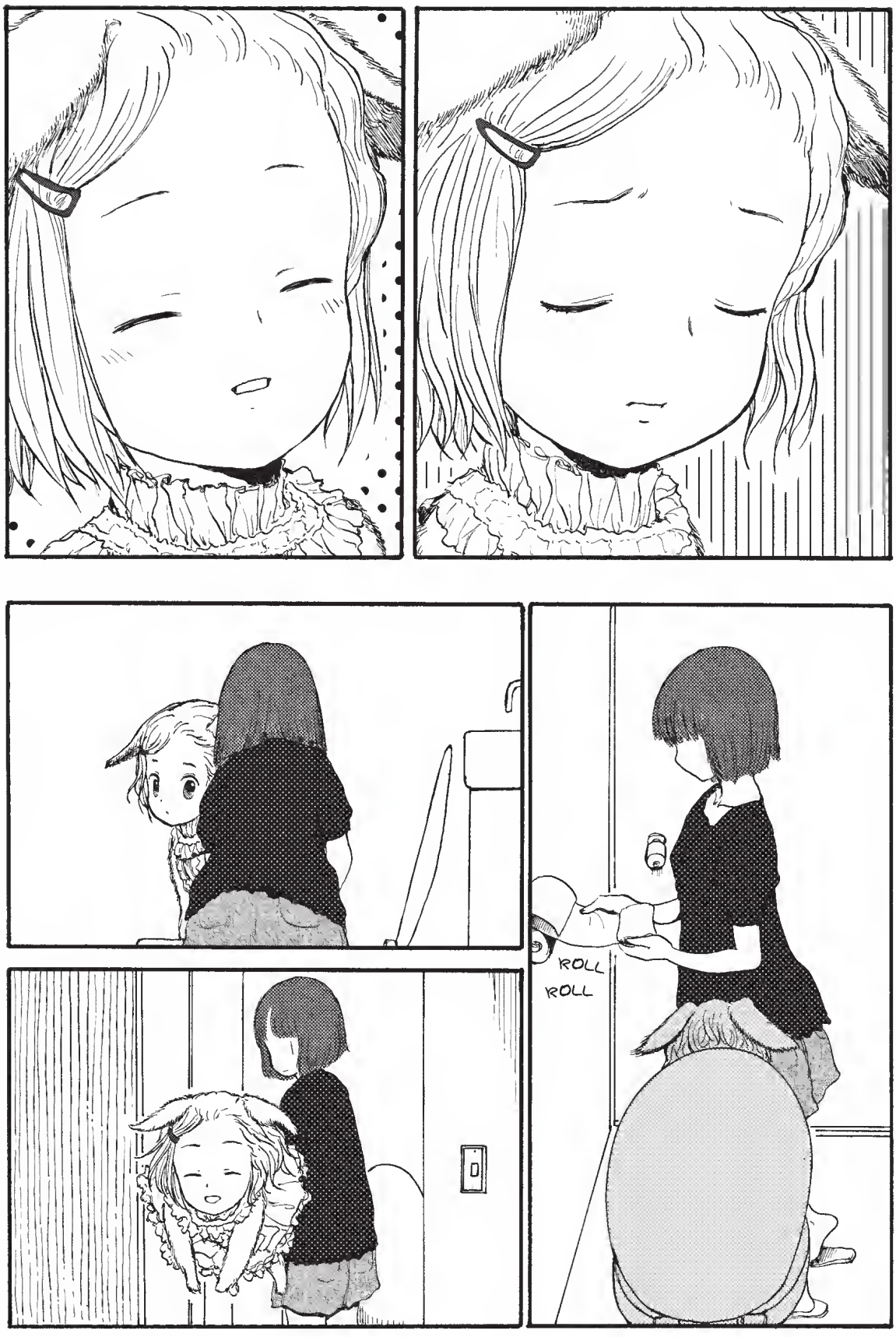
S-Save me! I'm going to be eaten--!
Settle, boy.
BARK
BARK
OPEN
TWIST
I WONDER IF THIS IS EDIBLE.
KO
OM!


Woof!
HUFF
HUFF
WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT FOOD?
Help me! I'm going to be eaten--!
STOMP
STOMP
I SEE. WE CAN JUST TEST OUT THE MUSHROOMS NEARBY.

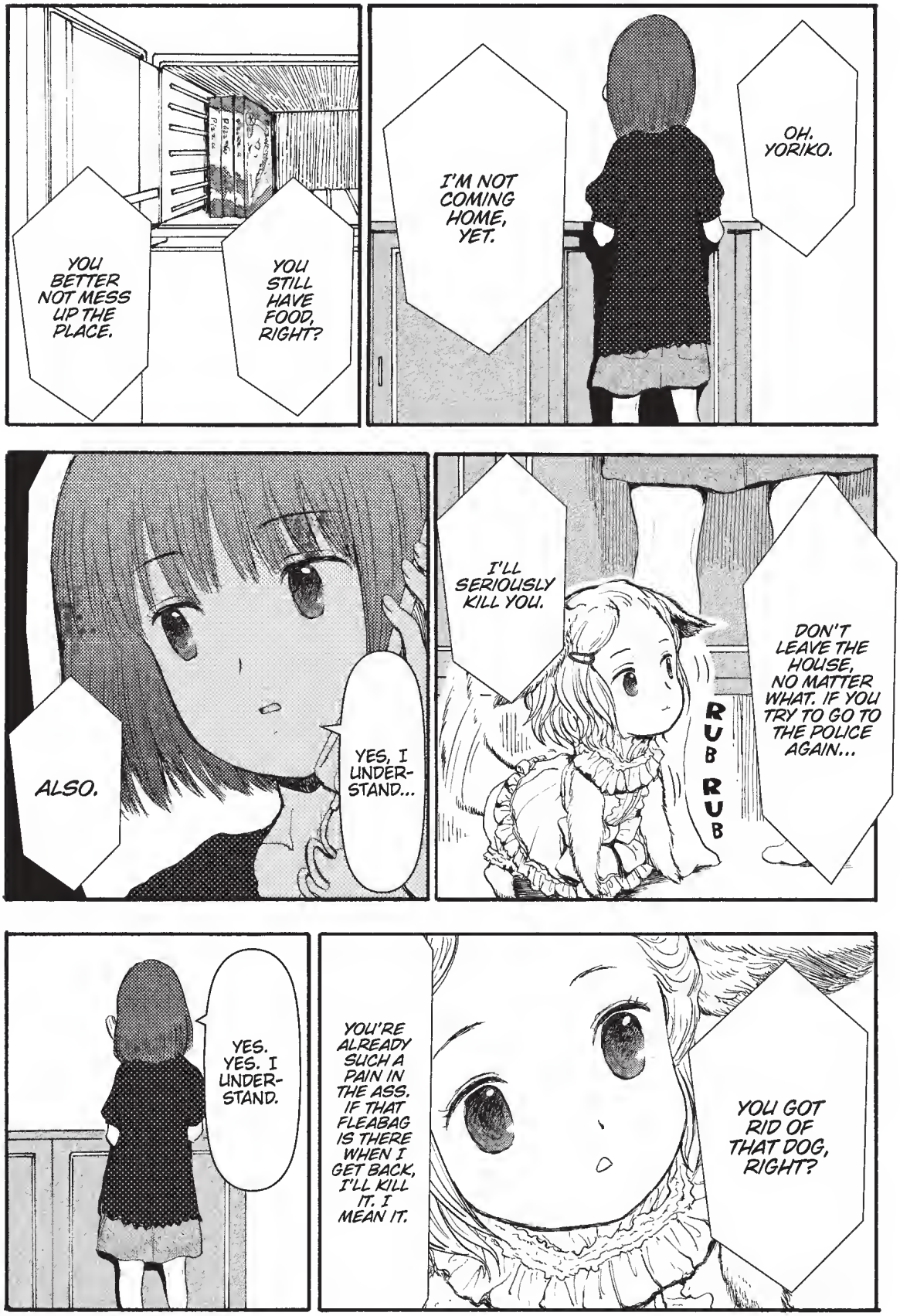

GROWL
1/8
Pizz
BJOW
BJOW
WAG
WAG
DING


MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
ZZ
ZZZ
LICK
LICK

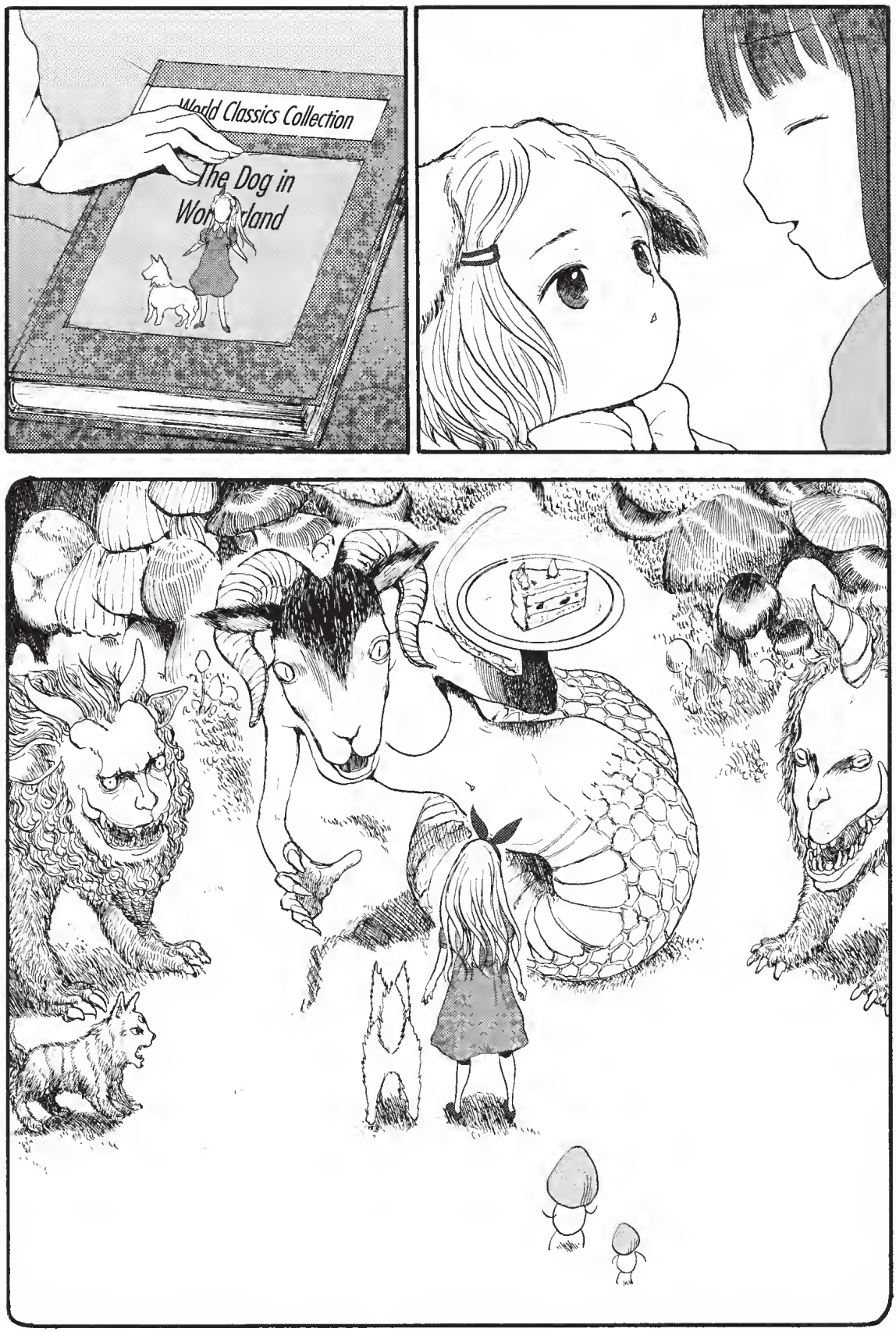

Whine
Whine
NUDGE
NUDGE
STEP
STEP

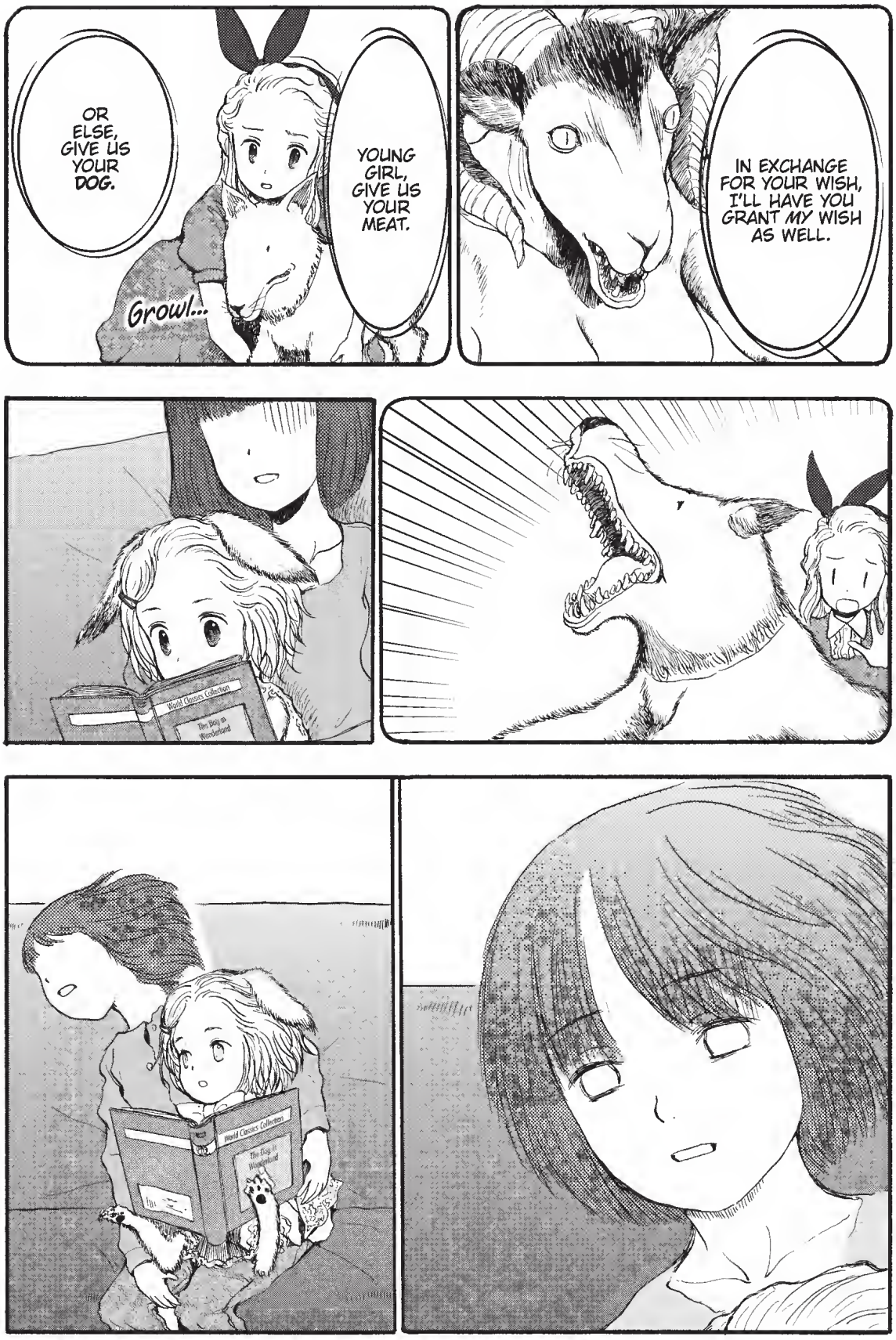

ROLL
ROLL

RRR-
DASH
RRRR
再生
停止
巻戻
早送
留守伝
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
*
0
#
短縮1
短縮2
リダイル
フック
MOM!
HEHE! STOP IT, DARLING! HA HA HA HA!
……

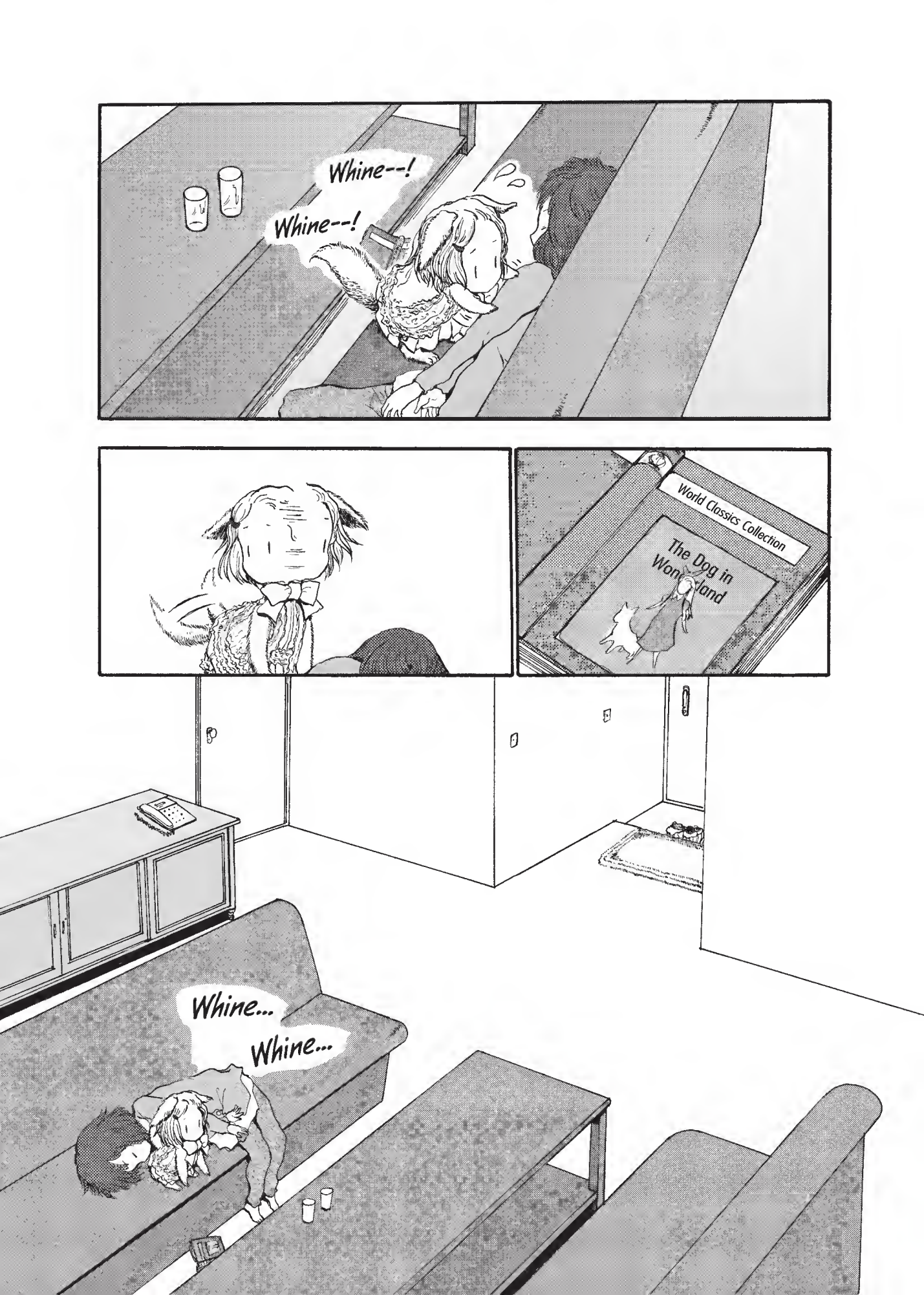

YOU BETTER NOT MESS UP THE PLACE.
YOU STILL HAVE FOOD, RIGHT?
I'M NOT COMING HOME, YET.
OH. YORIKO.
ALSO.
YES, I UNDER-STAND...
I'LL SERIOUSLY KILL YOU.
RUB RUB
DON'T LEAVE THE HOUSE, NO MATTER WHAT. IF YOU TRY TO GO TO THE POLICE AGAIN...
YES. YES. I UNDER-STAND.
YOU'RE ALREADY SUCH A PAIN IN THE ASS. IF THAT FLEABAG IS THERE WHEN I GET BACK, I'LL KILL IT. I MEAN IT.
YOU GOT RID OF THAT DOG, RIGHT?

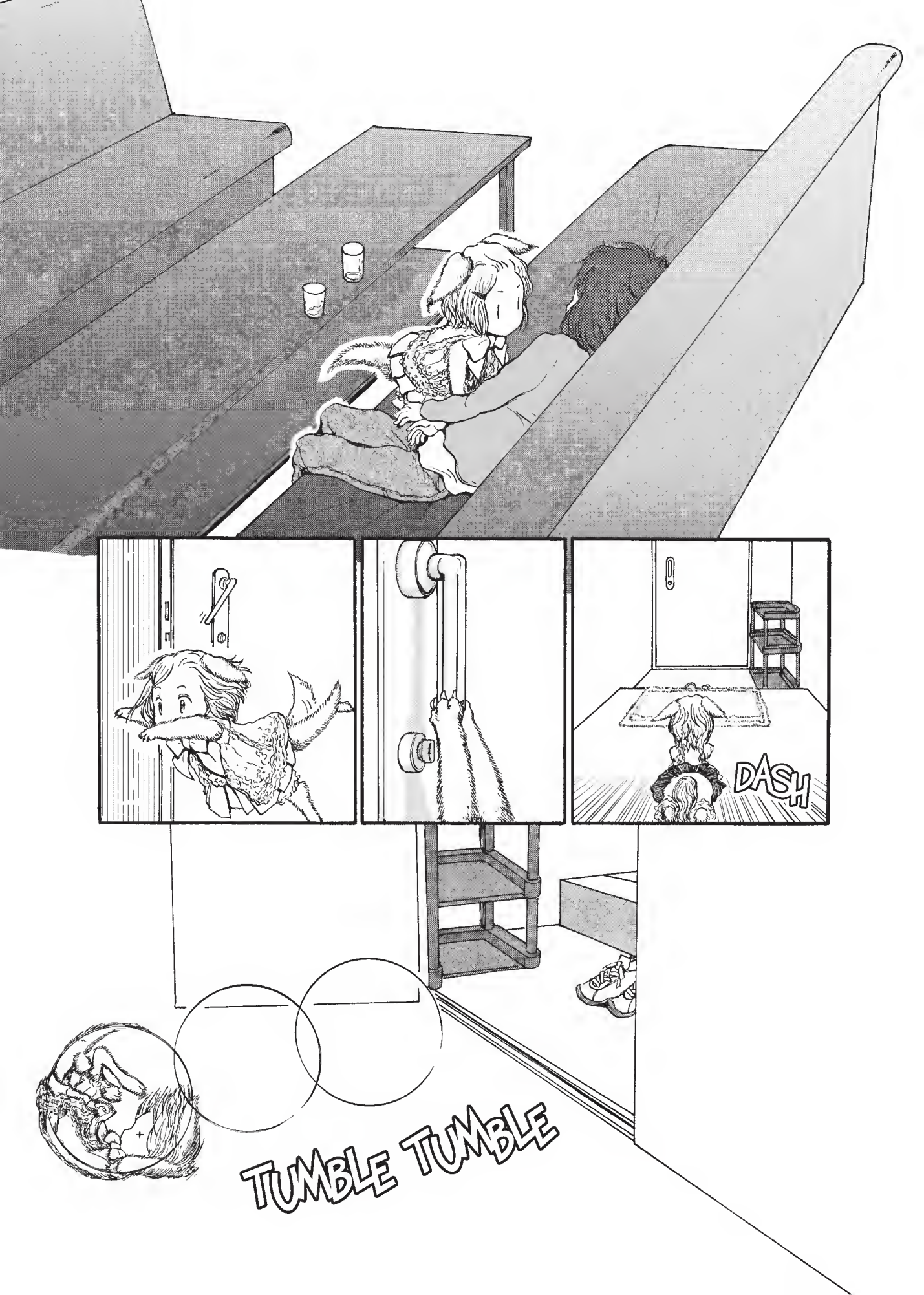
RUMBLE
GLUG
GLUG


World Classics Collection
The Dog in
Wonderland


OR ELSE, GIVE US YOUR DOG.
YOUNG GIRL, GIVE US YOUR MEAT.
Growl...
IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR WISH, I'LL HAVE YOU GRANT MY WISH AS WELL.
World Classics Collection
The Dog in Wonderland
World Classics Collection
The Dog in Wonderland

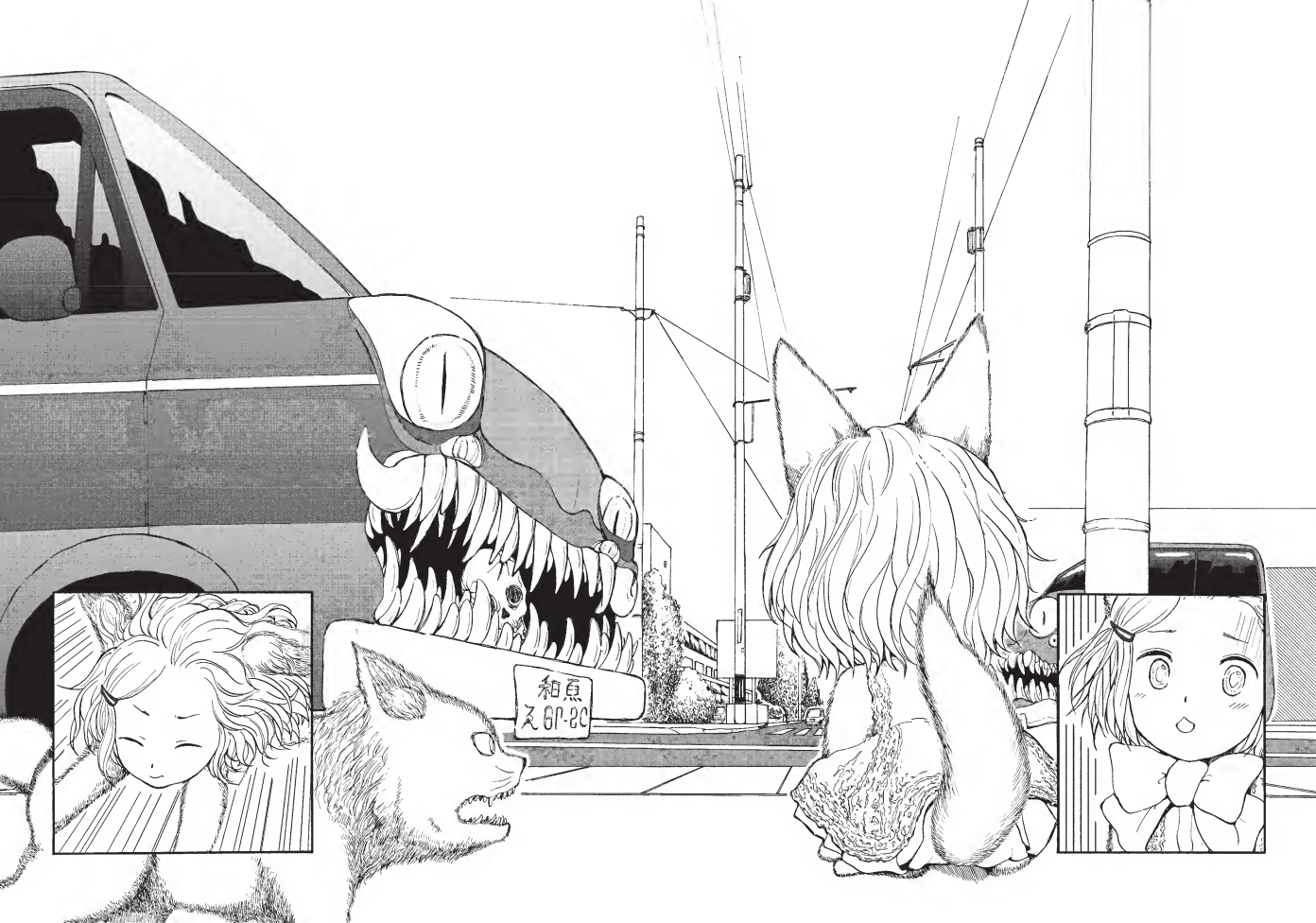
Whimper
Whimper
World Classics Collection
The Dog in Wonderland
PAT
PAT
LICK LICK


Whine--!
Whine--!
World Classics Collection
The Dog in Wonderland
Whine...
Whine...

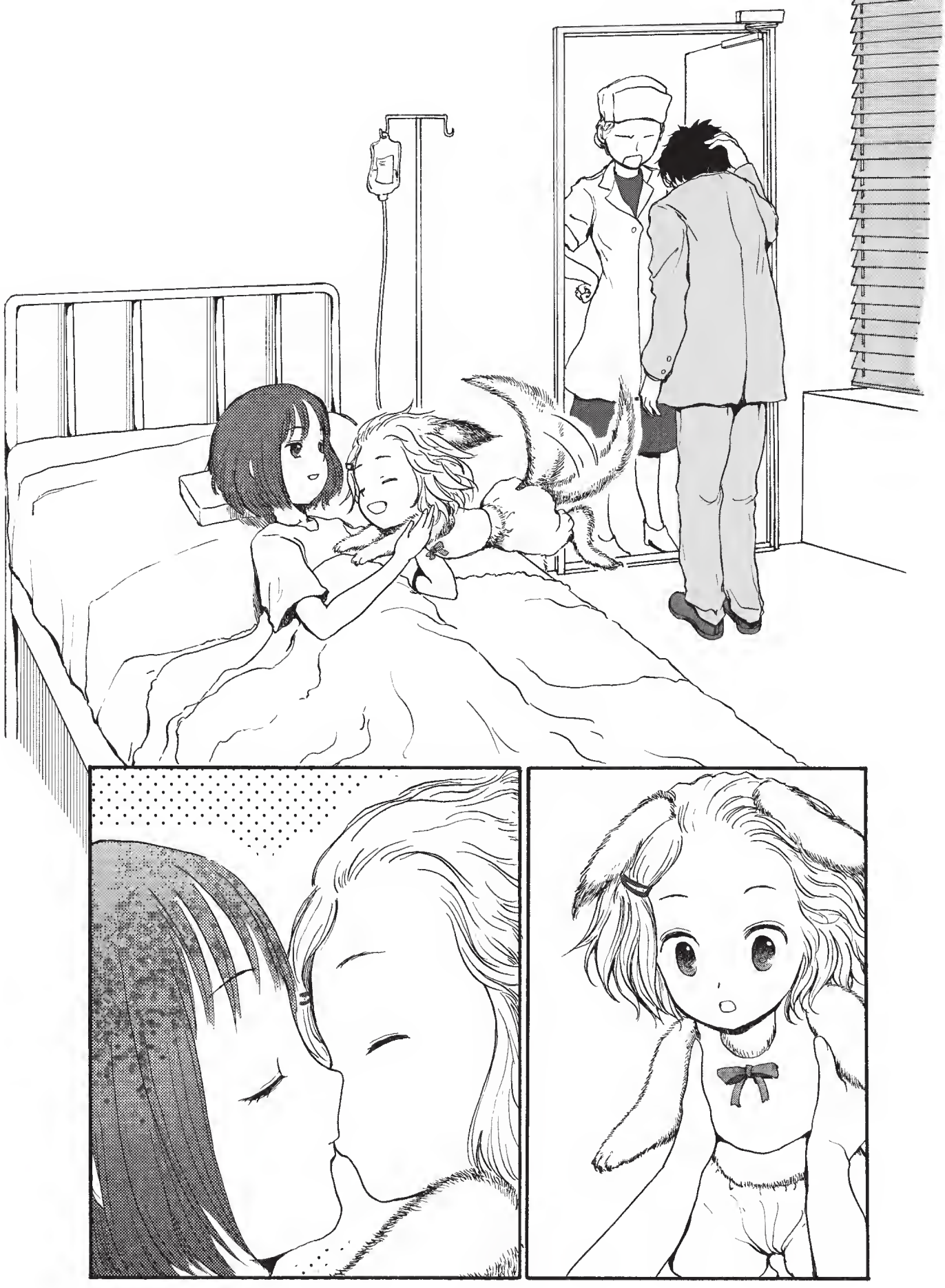

DASH
TUMBLE TUMBLE

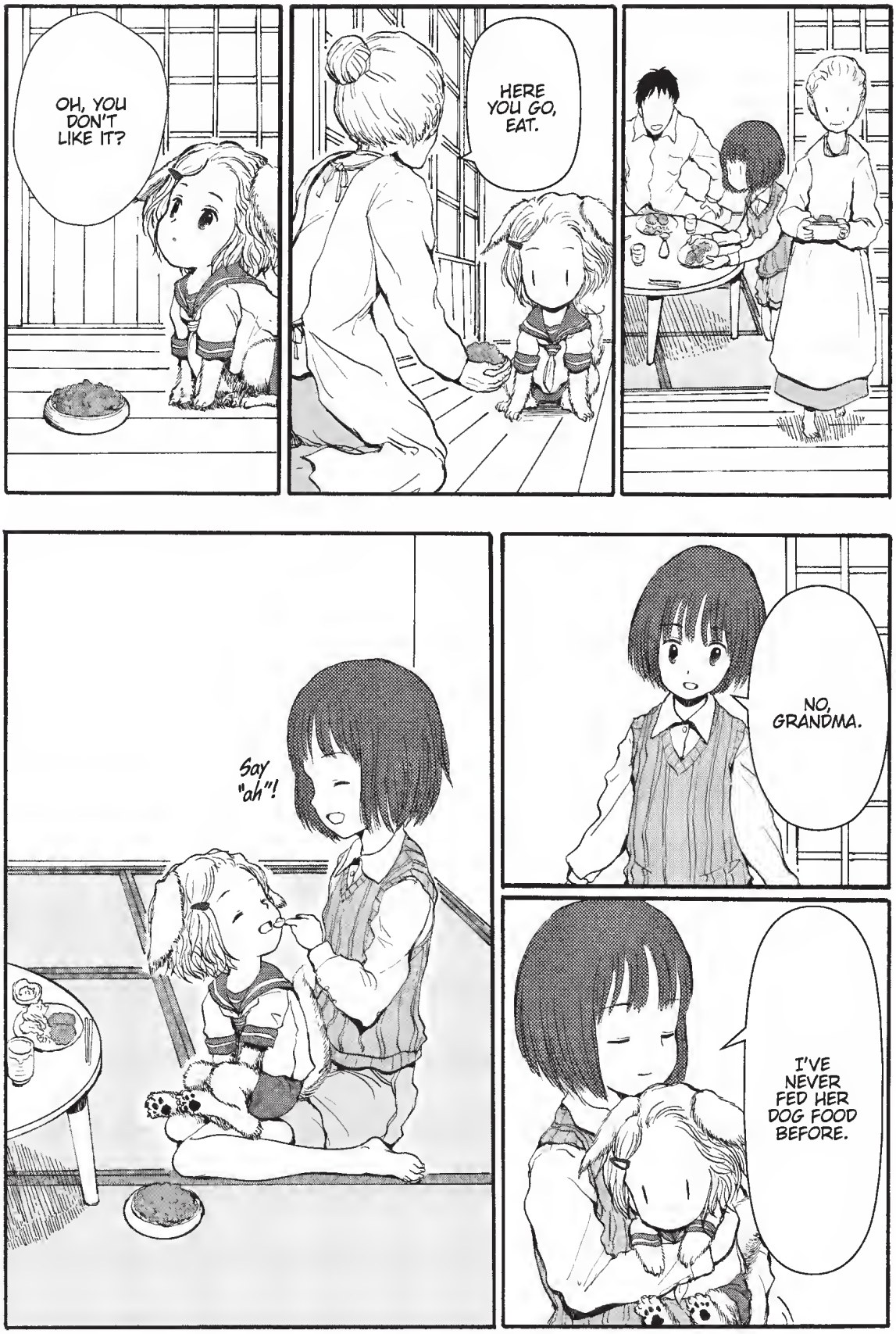
WHUNK

SLIP
CRASH
WOBBLE WOBBLE


和泉
え 6P-20

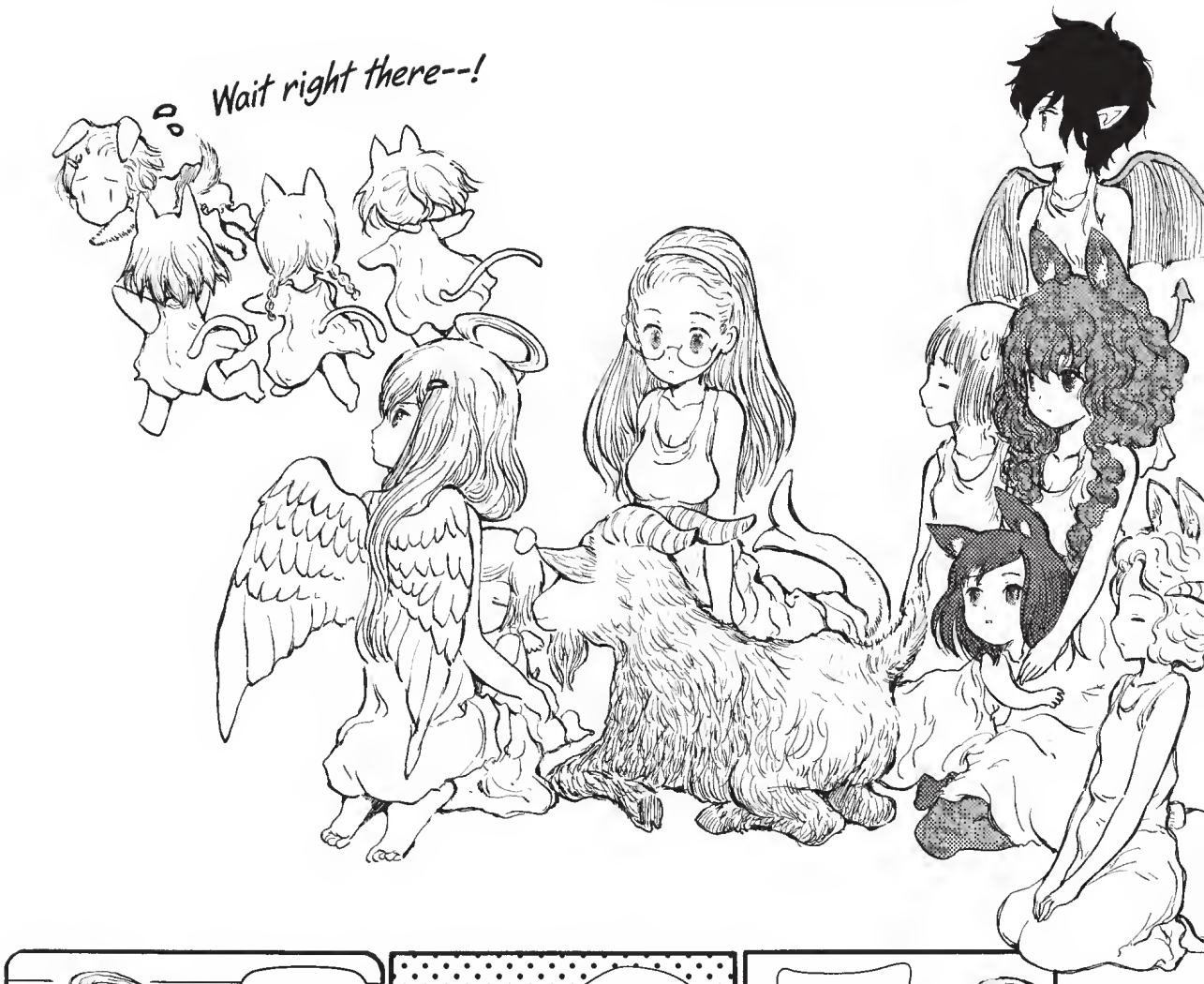
Whine
Whine

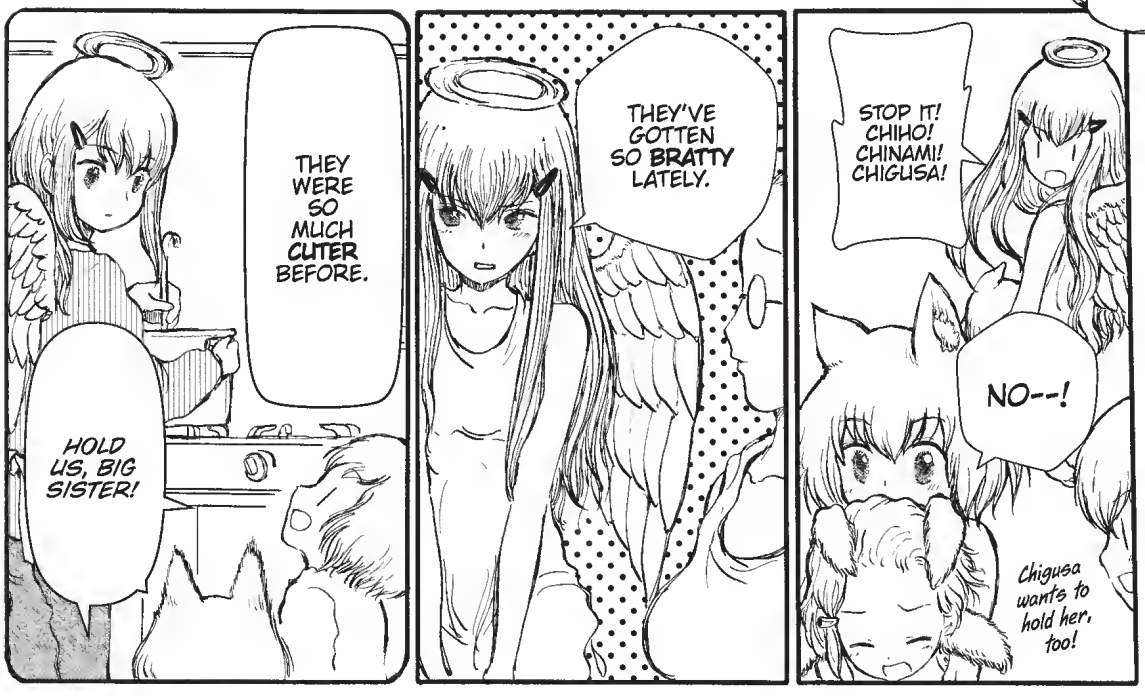


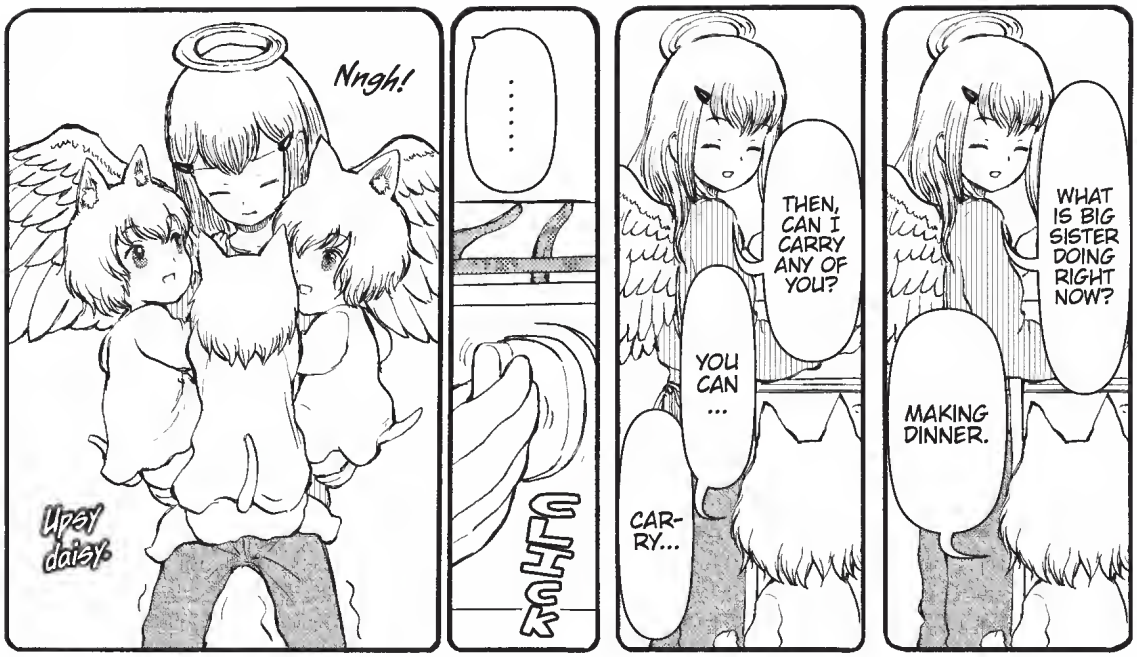

OH, YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
HERE YOU GO, EAT.
NO, GRANDMA.
Say "ah"!
I'VE NEVER FED HER DOG FOOD BEFORE.

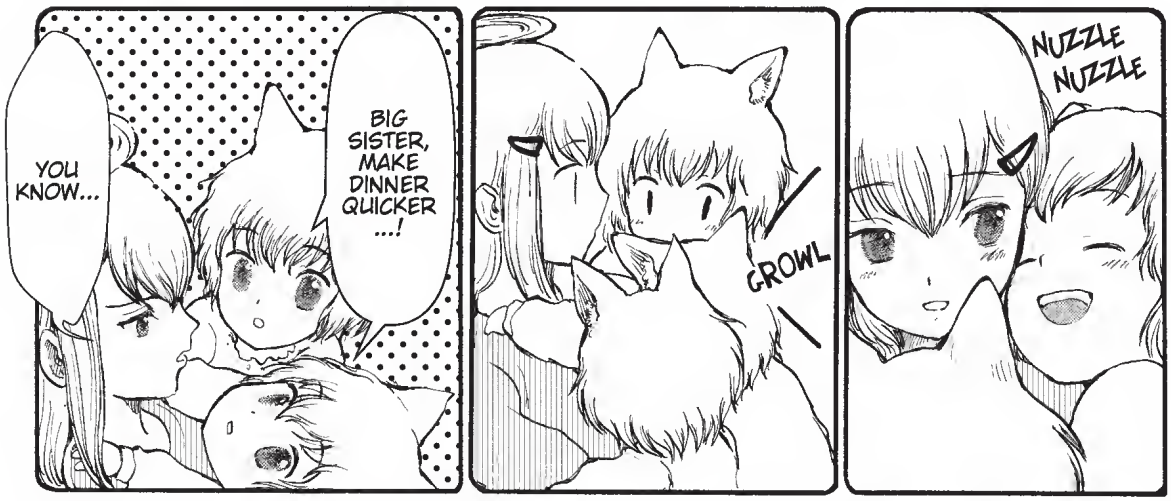
A CentaUr's Life

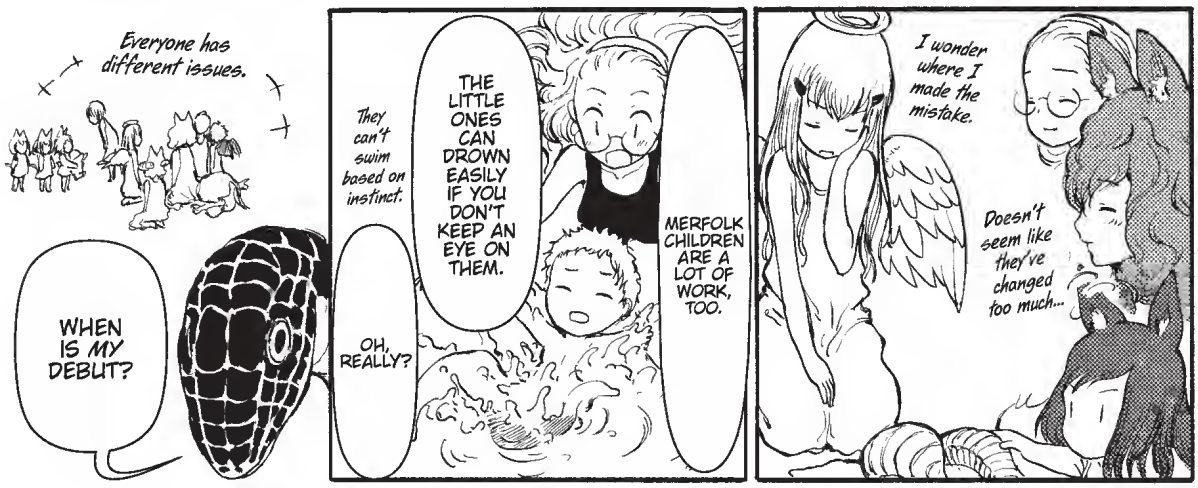
AFTERWORD...


Wait right there--!


THEY WERE SO MUCH CUTER BEFORE.
HOLD US, BIG SISTER!
THEY'VE GOTTEN SO BRATTY LATELY.
STOP IT! CHIHO! CHINAMI! CHIGUSA!
NO--!
Chigusa wants to hold her, too!


Nngh!
Upsy daisy.
.....
CLICK
THEN, CAN I CARRY ANY OF YOU?
YOU CAN ...
CAR-RY...
WHAT IS BIG SISTER DOING RIGHT NOW?
MAKING DINNER.


YOU KNOW...
BIG SISTER, MAKE DINNER QUICKER ...!
GROWL
NUZZLE NUZZLE


Everyone has different issues.
WHEN IS MY DEBUT?
They can't swim based on instinct.
OH, REALLY?
THE LITTLE ONES CAN DROWN EASILY IF YOU DON'T KEEP AN EYE ON THEM.
MERFOLK CHILDREN ARE A LOT OF WORK, TOO.
I wonder where I made the mistake.
Doesn't seem like they've changed too much...

LEARN ABOUT OUR TOWN!
KANATA CITY'S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

THE HEARTLAND AND MOUNT AKABA

Under the Ritsuryo system, created shortly before the Nara period, Japan was separated into provinces, districts, and neighborhoods. Kanata city is currently in the province of Hitachi, the district of Kanata, and the administrative government, Kankai, is in Akenuma. Under this system, all items received in payment of taxes were collected and stored in the Kankai warehouse and then sent to the capital from there. The people from the capital also created a factory there, bringing their culture and technology to Kanata. Currently in the ruins of Akenuma, Kankai, the administrative buildings and warehouse, the factory, and the workers' living quarters remain to this day for visitors to see and explore.

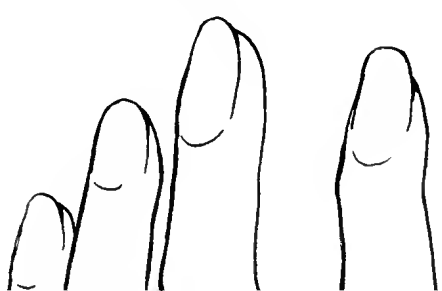
The capital also assigned the governors to staff the administrative building, Kokuga, for the province of Hitachi. These provincial governors had to bring their families from the capital to a land they knew area. The hearts of the people from the capital were comforted by the flat plains and the towering Mount Akaba. As such, Mount Akaba became the subject of many poems, quite a few which have been incorporated in the famous poetry collections, *Manyoushu* and *Kokin Wakashu*. The aristocrats who read such beautiful pieces were then inspired to write their own poems featuring the landmark. Even *The Tales of Genji* describes the beauty of Mount Akaba.

THE EARLY RULING CLASS

Based on registration and through the Handen-Shuju system, distributed fields of taxation, known as kubunden, were used to tax the citizens. This system began to deteriorate rapidly in the 9th century largely due to the growing number of unregistered civilians and those who escaped to avoid such heavy taxation. The government began to rely upon alternate ways of collecting taxes, ultimately killing off the old system. Between the 9th and 10th century, the Kokuga divided their lands and assigned high-class farmers, known as Tato, to manage the fields and people. In this way, they collected tax not directly from the people, but through the Tato. As the distributed field system faltered, the central government passed the power to freely collect tax and apply military force directly to the provinces. Those provincial governors who didn't avoid transfer and went to these areas were able to obtain vast amounts of power. They were called Zuryo*.

Daimyo Tato were landlords that developed their land extensively, but their control over this private land was very unstable.

**The origin of the word "Zuryo" comes from the acceptance of work and responsibilities of their predecessors.*

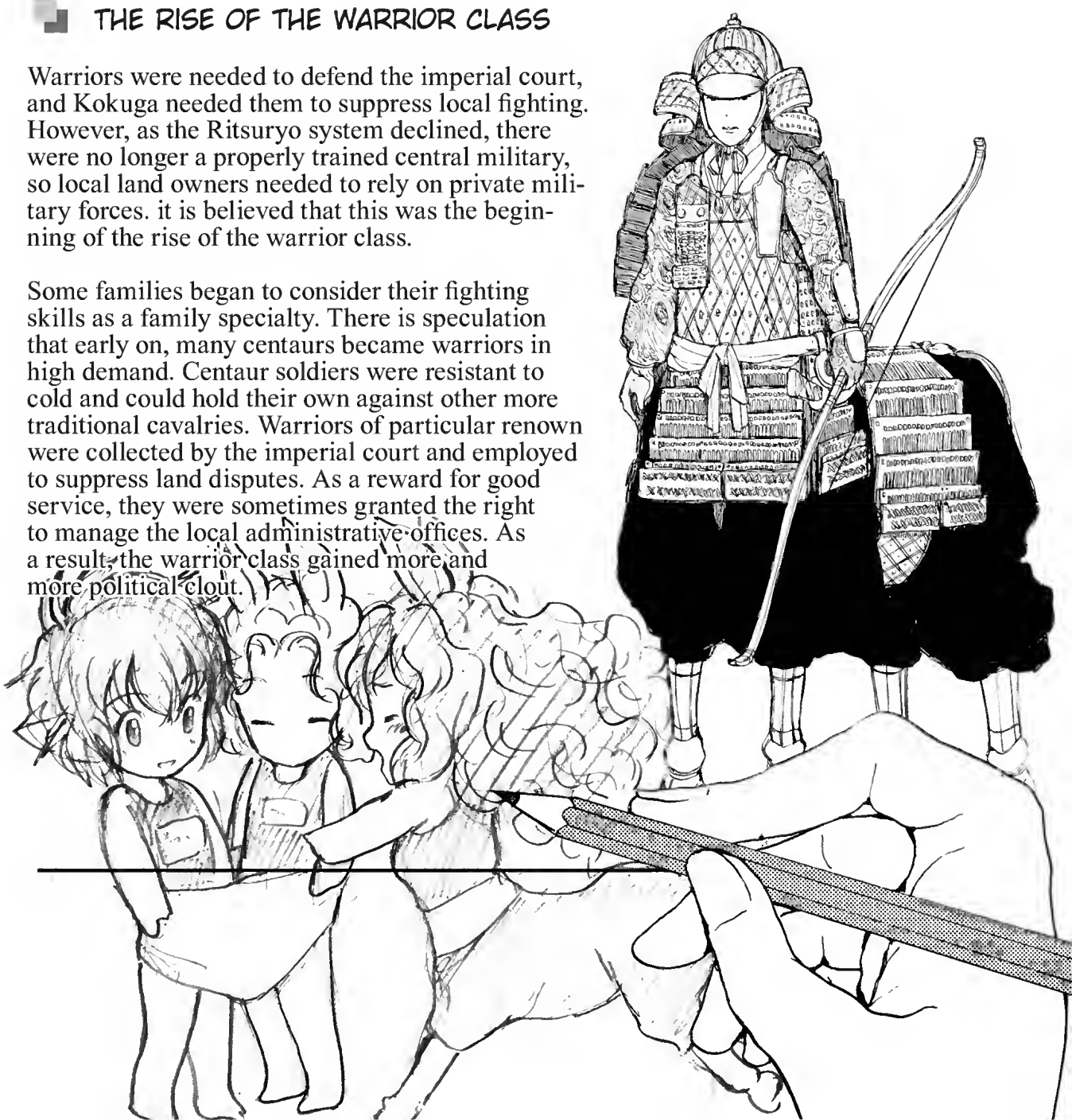


To make up for the instability, the Tato gave aristocrats a manor and land in exchange for protection. Thus, they were able to grasp onto actual power. In order to go against the growth of such aristocrats, the provincial governors gave the regular Tato city workers local administrative offices and granted control of the public land. As long as they met their quota for the provincial governor, no control was enforced. Thus, the powers of private or public land owner continued to grow. As the frequency of land disputes increased, these land owners began to focus on maintaining armed forces.

THE RISE OF THE WARRIOR CLASS

Warriors were needed to defend the imperial court, and Kokuga needed them to suppress local fighting. However, as the Ritsuryo system declined, there were no longer a properly trained central military, so local land owners needed to rely on private military forces. it is believed that this was the beginning of the rise of the warrior class.

Some families began to consider their fighting skills as a family specialty. There is speculation that early on, many centaurs became warriors in high demand. Centaur soldiers were resistant to cold and could hold their own against other more traditional cavalries. Warriors of particular renown were collected by the imperial court and employed to suppress land disputes. As a reward for good service, they were sometimes granted the right to manage the local administrative offices. As a result, the warrior class gained more and more political clout.



A CentaUr's Life

Kimihara Himeno, called Hime by her friends and family, is just a normal high-school girl... who also happens to be a centaur! With best friends like dragon-winged Nozomi, goat-horned Kyoko, a class president with angel wings, not to mention schoolmates of various different species, things are bound to get interesting...

Love is in the air, as Hime's younger cousin, Shino-chan, receives a lesson in kissing etiquette. Meanwhile, during a class trip to a merfolk high school, it's Kyoko and Nozomi who get some unexpected romantic attention!

FANTASY MEETS REALITY!

OLDER TEEN (16+)

Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC.

Distributed by Macmillan